

Jordan Times

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Many Jews live in Arab Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Almost a quarter of the Jewish population of Jerusalem lives in Arab parts of the Holy City annexed by Israel after the 1967 Middle East war, according to a government survey released Tuesday. The central bureau of statistics reported that of the total 306,000 Jews in Jerusalem, 78,000 reside in seven housing developments built on land occupied in 1967. Israel annexed Arab East Jerusalem and the walled Old City shortly after the 1967 war. It has kept the West Bank, also occupied in the conflict, under military occupation. In 1980, the Israeli parliament passed a law declaring Jerusalem Israel's "eternal, undivided capital," causing international condemnation. The survey, based on recently tallied results of a 1983 census, put the non-Jewish population of the Holy City at 122,400, or 28.5 per cent of its total inhabitants.

Thatcher welcomes Jordan-Egypt ties

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Esmat Abdul Maguid Tuesday she welcomed his country's renewed cooperation with Jordan, a spokesman for the prime minister said. Mrs. Thatcher and Abdul Maguid, on his first official visit to Britain, discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict during a half-hour meeting and found a "broad similarity of views", he added. Egypt has backed Jordan's efforts to revive the Arab-Israeli peace process since the two countries restored ties last year after a break over a separate Egyptian peace treaty with Israel. The spokesman declined to say if the two leaders had discussed a Jordanian plan for an international conference which would bring the Soviet Union into the peace process. Both sides had agreed on the need to make urgent progress to resolve the Middle East conflict, he said. Mr. Abdul Maguid, who met Foreign Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe Tuesday, flies to Washington Wednesday for talks ahead of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit there in March.

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Royal Decree approves Brunei ties

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday endorsing a cabinet decision to establish diplomatic relations with the Sultanate of Brunei at ambassadorial level.

PLO Military Council meets today in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Palestinian forces will hold a military parade near Baghdad as their higher Military Council meets in the Iraqi capital Wednesday. Palestinian sources said Tuesday. They said new weapons, not so far used by the Palestinians, would be shown at the parade to be attended by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) commanders in various Arab countries. This is the first time the Military Council, which maps out the strategy of the armed forces and looks after their armaments, will meet in Baghdad. Its last meeting was in Sanaa late last year.

Arafat, Khaddam in Algiers

PARIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam both flew unannounced to Algeria Monday, the Algerian news agency APS reported. The agency, monitored in Paris, said the Syrian vice-president, who arrived first, later met Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim. No details of the talks were disclosed. Mr. Arafat, who had talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Monday in Riyadh on ways to ensure a Palestinian presence in any international peace conference on the Middle East, arrived later in Algiers with two aides of his Fatah movement, the agency said. The agency did not say whether the two men were likely to meet during their stay in Algeria.

Meese confirmed as attorney general

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate judiciary committee Tuesday recommended confirmation of President Reagan's controversial choice of Edwin Meese as the new U.S. attorney general. It cleared the selection of Mr. Meese, 53, a senior White House aide for the past four years, by a 12-6 vote, largely along partisan lines. The nomination now goes to the full Senate, with a vote expected late this month.

Abu Dhabi to buy more Mirages

PARIS (R) — Abu Dhabi has decided to buy another 18 or 20 Mirage 2000 multi-role combat jets on top of 18 contracted for last year, industry sources said Tuesday. The sources said it was not clear if Abu Dhabi and French aviation company Avions Marcel Dassault, maker of the Mirage, had yet signed a second contract but the emirate had told Dassault it intended to buy the additional planes.

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Occupation forces impose collective punishment

Israelis close Arab shops in Ramallah

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities closed more than 100 Arab shops in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah on Tuesday as they searched for suspects in the killing of an Israeli army corporal.

A military source quoted by the Associated Press said the closures, imposed on the same block in the city centre where the soldier was shot on Monday, was to punish the merchants for refusing to help in the investigation.

"They all saw it, but no one will cooperate. They tell us they didn't see or hear anything," said the source, who spoke on condition he was not identified. He said the shops would be allowed to reopen Wednesday evening.

Renewed anti-Israel protests were reported at midday in Ramallah, 16 kilometres north of Jerusalem. Stones were thrown at an army truck and an Israeli bus, but no one was hurt, the military source said.

The killing of the soldier in front of an army office building Monday was viewed as an act of unprecedented daring by Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories. Last week an Israeli died of injuries suffered in a firebomb attack in the West Bank. It was the first fatal attack on an Israeli in the West Bank in two years.

In Damascus, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine

(PFLP) claimed Tuesday it was responsible for the attack. A PFLP spokesman said the incident took place when a PFLP unit attacked a group of Israeli soldiers in Al Bireh, north of Jerusalem. "killing one and wounding others."

He said Israeli forces ringed the area but the attackers returned to their base safely.

Palestinians from the Dheish refugee camp near Bethlehem accused Israeli soldiers of striking two fathers of suspects who were sought during a wave of arrests in the camp last week.

An army spokesman, who said he witnessed some of the arrests, denied the charges.

At a news conference sponsored by the Israeli League for Human Rights, the Dheish Defence Committee called on the Israeli government to end a three-month sit-in by Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a militant leader of the Jewish settlement movement in the occupied West Bank.

Rabbi Levinger entered the camp on Monday and fired shots in the air after youths threw stones at his vehicle across the road.

"We call for an end to this harassment," said Hassan Abdul Jawwad.

Ali Mohammad Farraj, 50, said soldiers beat him on his face and chest, broke his breast bone and took his identification documents because his son Ahmad was not home. He showed reporters a bandage on his chest.

Shaban Attallah Al Aisa, 52, said that soldiers who entered his home Saturday looking for his son Akram "kicked me. I fell to the ground." He said they confiscated his drivers' licence because his son was not home to be arrested.

Dheish residents sent a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar asking him to send an inquiry team.

Thuraya Farraj, 40, said Israeli soldiers broke most of the furniture in her house when they could not find her brother.

"We want to warn public opinion of the imminent danger that blood will be spilled in Dheish," said Joseph Alqazy, head of the League for Human Rights in Israel.

Felicia Langer, a lawyer who often defends Palestinians, said Dheish was a true ghetto, with all its exits sealed and Israeli troops patrolling daily.

"This is happening at the end of the 20th century in land administered by Israel and I don't see how we can be silent. We are sending out an SOS," she said.

Mubarak urges Israel to be more flexible on Taba

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said Tuesday Egypt was dissatisfied with Israel's attitude toward bilateral disputes and urged it to be more flexible over the Red Sea coastal strip of Taba.

Speaking to reporters after talks with visiting West German President Richard von Weizsaecker, Mr. Mubarak said Egypt was "dissatisfied with their (Israeli) efforts to settle problems between us."

He was replying to questions on remarks by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, published by the New York Times Tuesday, expressing disappointment with Egypt's response to his efforts to improve bilateral ties (See page 2).

Mr. Mubarak said he expected Egypt and Israel to hold a second round of talks soon on the disputed 700 metre-long Taba Strip under Israeli control. "But I am asking the Israelis to be much more flexible," he added.

Both sides narrowed differences over Taba in recent talks in Israel, but failed to solve the dispute.

Israel inciting violence in south, Karami says

BEIRUT (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami Tuesday accused Israel of stirring up mutual fears of bloodshed between Muslims and Christians in South Lebanon and trying to arm them before withdrawing from the region.

Israeli agents had visited towns and villages to warn different religious communities of alleged dangers they faced from each other and had then offered them arms, he told Reuters in an interview.

Mr. Karami said the Israelis approached mayors, village elders and residents, "scaring them and warning them of trouble... sometimes they scare Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims and Christians about each other and offer them arms to defend themselves."

"We are proud of the consciousness of our people, who have confronted these campaigns, rejected such propaganda and did not accept the arms offered," he added.

Mr. Karami linked the Israeli actions with warnings by Israeli leaders of sectarian massacres in the volatile Sidon region, which Israeli troops are preparing to leave by Feb 18.

The Foreign Ministry Tuesday called in envoys of the 10 nations contributing to a U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon to assure them Lebanese troops would take over Sidon when the Israelis left.

Officials said the briefings were to counter the Israeli warnings of massacres and the diplomats were asked for pressure from their governments to stop Israel's campaign.

Mr. Karami said the Israeli warnings "show clearly their deliberate intentions in this respect. They are holding Lebanon and the U.N. responsible for what may happen."

He urged "international public opinion everywhere to condemn these campaigns of instigation and these open attempts by the enemy networks in the occupied areas."

He said all communities in the Sidon area were "unanimous in calling for the Lebanese army... without the need for any group to take on a security role itself."

Preparations to send troops south were going well and had brought "a climate of relief," he said.

They are the Liberian-registered 230,000-deadweight tonne (dwt) Nova, the Scandinavian-registered 250,000 dwt Stena Atlantica, the Maltese-registered 275,000 dwt Torrell, and the 270,000 dwt Kypros and 280,000 dwt Cougar, both under the Cypriot flag.

Iran has run several individually-arranged shuttle trips in recent months, transferring cargoes to ships waiting outside the Gulf off the United Arab Emirates port of Fujairah. But this was on a smaller scale than planned for Sirri Island.

The sources said two ultra large-crude carriers, the Swedish-registered 351,386 dwt Sea Song, and Ventura, a Hong Kong-registered 332,663 dwt vessel, had been chartered for storage and trans-shipment at Sirri.

The two tankers effectively will serve as twin jetties, allowing tankers to tie up each side, while the shuttle fleet will run relay with vessels loading, discharging, ballasting and plying northern and southern routes simultaneously.



His Majesty King Hussein bids farewell to West German President Richard von Weizsaecker, who left Amman after a three-day visit Tuesday (Petra photo)

Von Weizsaecker leaves, stresses need to continue efforts for peace

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — West German President Richard von Weizsaecker and his wife left Amman for Cairo Tuesday at the end of a three-day official visit to Jordan during which he held talks with His Majesty King Hussein on various Middle East issues.

Upon his departure for Cairo on a four-day official visit, Dr. von Weizsaecker sent a cable of thanks and good wishes to King Hussein in which he stressed the necessity of continuing efforts aimed at achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

In his cable, the West German head of state said his talks with the King "strengthened hopes for reaching a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict for the benefit of all parties involved."

The Jordanian News Agency "Petra," which carried the news, quoted Dr. von Weizsaecker as saying he hoped the King's personal efforts to reach a just settlement would bear fruit.

"We will strive with the cooperation of other European Community (EC) countries towards achieving a freeze in the search for peace. A freeze would then be considered a step backwards," Dr. von Weizsaecker warned.

He said his country hoped for a "direct and decisive" dialogue between all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. He also said that West Germany will continue to support the Kingdom and its development.

During his three-day visit, the West German president expressed a general approval for the King's Middle East peace efforts, namely his decision last September to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Dr. von Weizsaecker said Monday he supported any conference on Middle East peace that would bring together "all states and parties involved" in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The King's proposal to convene an international Middle East peace conference in which all parties concerned would participate under United Nations auspices is rejected by the United States and Israel who opposed the participation of the Soviet Union in any future peace negotiations.

In Cairo, Dr. von Weizsaecker held a round of talks Tuesday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

After the talks, President Mubarak was quoted by the Associated Press as saying "the atmosphere was very good" but gave no details.

Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, who attended the meeting, said it included a "general review of the situation" and that more detailed discussions will be held on Wednesday. He described Egyptian-West German relations as "advanced and growing."

The Syrian response to Sheikh Sabah's proposals was "favourable," the Kuwaiti official was quoted as briefing Prince Saud.

Sources close to the Saudi Foreign Ministry said Sheikh Sabah also told Prince Saud that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has promised to step up his bid with Tehran to cease fighting in a move designed to start negotiations for an end to the war.

They said that Sheikh Sabah was to travel to Algeria and Libya sometime next week on similar missions with the leaders of the two Arab countries that maintain good ties with the Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman

named by newspapers as the head of the espionage network, has identified the three countries as nations to which he passed India's most sensitive secrets over the past 25 years.

An Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman refused to comment on the report but hinted the affair was far from over.

"Investigations are continuing along with appropriate action," the spokesman told reporters.

The Press Trust of India reported intelligence agents have also issued a warrant for the arrest of Yogesh Maneklal, managing director of the company which employed Narayan.

In his statement to a New Delhi

Official sources in Amman were quoted by Reuters as saying that in a telephone conversation Monday, King Hussein briefed President Mubarak on his discussions with the West German president, who is accompanied by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

A Cairo newspaper Tuesday praised West Germany for an "increasing attitude of even-handedness" in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The state-owned Egyptian Gazette, Egypt's only English language newspaper, commented in an editorial on the occasion of the visit to Egypt by Dr. von Weizsaecker.

"With the realistic and fair-minded views that West Germany now entertains on the Middle East question, there is absolutely no room for any suspicion that it may favour one party in the area over another."

"The increasing attitude of even-handedness that Bonn, whatever the complexion of the West German government, has shown during recent years in all that concerns the Middle East has led to ever closer ties between Egypt and the Federal Republic," it added.

The newspaper said a major topic in Dr. von Weizsaecker's talks with President Mubarak "is expected to concern ways in which the European Community can work for a revival of Middle East peace efforts."

Kuwait expects Syria to help end Iran-Iraq war

RIYADH (AP) — Syria has promised to exert itself for a peace settlement between warring Iraq and Iran, the Kuwaiti foreign minister was quoted Tuesday as telling his Saudi Arabian counterpart during a meeting here.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad of Kuwait and Prince Saud Al Faisal of Saudi Arabia held sessions of talks here on chances of arranging an end to the 52-month-old Gulf conflict.

The two men have been delegated by the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to intercede with Syria and talk Iran into using its good relations with Iran to bring the Iran-Iraq war to an end.

Sheikh Jaber visited Syria last Sunday, but Prince Saud did not join him because of what Saudi embassy officials in Damascus described as "lengthy talks" he was conducting in Baghdad at the time.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman

in a regional economic integration and collective defence pact.

The six countries have been upset by the protracted conflict between their bigger neighbours, Iran and Iraq, and were seeking means of averting an escalation in war operations that have been creeping menacingly to the doorsteps of the neutral Arab countries.

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Businessman Coomarr Narayan,

Protests mar reopening of Spain-Gibraltar border

GIBRALTAR (R) — Traffic flowed freely between Spain and Gibraltar Tuesday for the first time in almost 16 years, after a festive reopening of the border marred by the burning of five cars.

Spanish police said the cars, three from Britain, one from Spain and the other from Gibraltar, were set on fire in the border town of La Linea apparently in protest against Spain's decision to end its blockade of the British colony.

Border restrictions were ended just after midnight Monday night when a Spanish official opened the green gates separating Spain from Gibraltar.

The gates were ordered locked by dictator Francisco Franco in 1969 to try to force Britain to give up its colony.

In spite of the car burnings there were scenes of jubilation on the Spanish side, but in Gibraltar the response was more subdued and many of the 27,000 inhabitants said they feared this was the beginning of the end of 281 years of British rule.

Spain agreed to reopen the border in exchange for talks with Britain on the sovereignty of Gibraltar which started Tuesday in Geneva.

Britain has said there will be no changes in sovereignty against the wishes of Gibraltarians, who have voted overwhelmingly in the past to remain British.

A British member of parliament, Albert McQuarrie, said in Gibraltar's newspaper today Spain could go on talking about sovereignty, "until the cows go home."

Spain's leading newspaper El Pais said reason had prevailed.

As Spain was a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and was about to join the European Community, "the two countries could not continue their squabble over a closed border," it said.

There was an initial rush of traffic in both directions after the border reopened.

Hussein receives Mauritanian message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received a message from Mauritanian President Colonel Muawiah Sid Ahmad Ouldah.

The message was delivered to the King by Mauritanian Deputy Foreign Minister Abdul Oudberti, in an audience at the Royal Court attended by Mauritanian Ambassador to the Royal Court, Mohammad Mahmoud Weld Widiadi.



Hikmat appointed acting information minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday appointing Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Taber Hikmat as acting minister of information.

Mr. Hikmat will continue to serve as minister of culture, tourism and antiquities while assuming the responsibilities of the information portfolio, which became vacant when Mrs. Laila Sharaf resigned from the cabinet last week.

Mr. Hikmat, a lawyer by profession, served as minister of transport in Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat's government until he was named minister of culture, tourism and antiquities in the minor cabinet reshuffle of Nov. 1, 1984.

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Libya frees 4 Britons

BAHRAIN (R) — Libya Tuesday released four Britons detained after a diplomatic dispute erupted following the shooting of a policewoman in London last April, the official Libyan News Agency JANA reported.

The agency, contacted by telephone from Bahrain, said the secretary-general of the Libyan Peoples' Congress announced the release at a press conference in Tripoli.

"The four Britons released for security reasons were jailed this morning in compliance with resolutions taken by the country's Peoples Congress at its regular session this year," the JANA statement said.

It said the press conference was attended by Terry Waite, special envoy of the Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, who has been mediating for their release since before Christmas.

The statement said 2,107 Peoples' Congresses had met to decide the fate of the four: engineers Robin Plummer, 33, and Malcolm Anderson, 27, lecturer Michael Berdinner, 52, and teacher Alan Russell, 49.

They were detained after Britain severed ties with Libya and expelled its diplomats after shots fired from the Libyan Foreign Liaison Office (embassy) in London killed a British policewoman.

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi recommended the release of the four but left the final decision to the Peoples' Congress, a form of parliament.

Their release was delayed 24 hours because of Libyan displeasure over the unveiling of a memorial to the slain policewoman by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Friday.

Libya denied involvement in the shooting.

The fate of the four had also been linked to a trial in Britain of four Libyans on explosive charges.

Mr. Russell and Mr. Anderson also faced charges while in detention here.

Mr. Russell was sentenced on Jan. 6 to three months jail for possessing state secrets, communicating with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and being in Libya without proper documents.

Mr. Anderson was accused of trying to smuggle state secrets out of Libya.

Mr. Berdinner and Mr. Plummer were not notified of any charges against them.

The JANA statement said 272 basic Peoples' Congresses voted for the unconditional release of the Britons, while 1,752 said they wanted the release to be conditional.

The conditions included an undertaking from Britain "to refrain from protecting stray dogs, to hand them back and prohibit anti-Libyan peoples activities."

The Congresses also demanded an end to anti-Libyan and hostile media campaigns, and an undertaking from the British government to treat Libyans according to international law and release Libyans detained in Britain, JANA reported.



DHEISHA UNDER SIEGE: Israeli soldier checked identity of two Palestinian women at a road by Jewish settlers, which had blocked main roads in block just outside Dheisheh refugee camp on the occupied West Bank Monday. The camp is still besieged by the West Bank (AP wirephoto)

Greece hopes to sell Libya \$1b worth of weapons

ATHENS (R) — Greece hopes to sell Libya military equipment worth \$1 billion over the next five years, a government spokesman said Tuesday.

He said a Libyan delegation had been in Athens during the past few days for talks about intended defence purchases worth \$500 million.

Any equipment Greece sold to Libya would be wholly Greek-made and Greek-designed and the sales would not touch hardware Athens had obtained through NATO, he said.

Officials have also named fast patrol boats and army vehicles as other areas of Libyan interest.

AWF calls on Arab states to unify ranks

AMMAN (Petra) — The permanent bureau of the Arab Women Federation (AWF) has called on Arabs to unify their ranks and coordinate their positions with the purpose of repelling "dangers and threats posed by the Zionist enemy."

The bureau which concluded meetings in Kuwait recently called on Arab governments to transcend their differences and mobilise their resources for confronting the challenges that threaten their existence.

The AWF bureau reiterated its recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and its rejection of all forms of interference in inter-Palestinian affairs and all attempts to impose hegemony on the PLO.

It also called for an immediate end to the Gulf War which it said saps Arab resources and weakens Muslim nations.

The bureau which opened the meeting on Jan. 30 sent cables to Arab leaders and heads of state of the Soviet Union and the United States as well as the secretary-general of the United Nations and the Arab League calling for an end to all Israeli human rights violations and the occupied Arab territories and a halt to Israeli settlement building operations there.

CAIRO (R) — Godfrey Shiner, a Briton detained here in connection with an alleged plot to kill a foe of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, has won a bail request but is still being held pending a decision by Egypt's interior minister.

Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi told reporters Tuesday that Shiner, 47, was granted bail on a special state security court but asked his wife in England to send the bail money.

Last Saturday, British embassy officials said bail was set at 30,000 Egyptian pounds (\$56,145), but that Shiner was still in custody in compliance with Egypt's emergency law.

Emergency law, in force since October 1981 following the assassination of President Anwar Sadat by Muslim gunmen, gives the interior minister the right to object to any court release or bail ruling for security reasons within 15 days.

Shiner and three others were arrested in November in connection with an alleged plot to kill

U.S. aid to Egypt less than requested

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan's administration on Monday presented its request for aid to Congress, seeking a hefty increase for Israel and a smaller raise for Egypt.

The proposed package for Egypt totals \$2.3 billion, some \$110 million more than the country is receiving this year, but about \$900 million short of the request by the President Hosni Mubarak's government.

The budget proposal includes \$1.8 billion in arms grants for Israel, an increase of \$400 million over the current year, but \$300 million less than sought by the Israeli government.

Thomas McNamara, a State Department official who briefed reporters on the budget proposal, noted that the Reagan administration is still negotiating an economic aid figure for Israel.

He said the administration will send its recommendation to Congress "promptly" when it reaches agreement with the Jewish state on its economic recovery programme.

State Department officials have indicated they expect to increase economic aid to Israel above the \$1.2 billion in cash given this year.

Israel has asked for \$1.9 billion in economic aid for next year. The administration also has deferred making a recommendation to Congress on Israel's request for an extra \$800 million in emergency economic aid for the current year.

Mr. Mubarak and other Egyptian officials expected to visit Washington during the coming weeks are expected to press their request for an increase of about \$1 billion over the current year's \$2.2 billion, but Mr. McNamara said the U.S. administration didn't plan to increase its request.

Mr. McNamara told a reporter that the administration's proposal for Egypt took into account the country's request for a \$1 billion increase.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, told Congress last week that Egypt was groaning under economic problems.

The administration tries to keep aid "comparable" to Egypt and Israel — the countries that receive the largest amounts of assistance from the United States — as a result of the Camp David peace agreement, Mr. Murphy said.

But he said the administration does not attempt to give the countries "equal" aid because of their different situations.

The administration's proposal would provide Egypt with \$213 million in commodity sales, \$9.4 million in food grants, compared with \$225 million and \$12.1 million for the same categories this year.

The proposal included \$815 million in economic grants and \$2 million in military training, the same amounts as this year. \$1.3 million in arms grants, an increase over the \$1.175 billion being given Egypt this year.

NEW YORK (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres was quoted Tuesday as saying he was disappointed with what he called Egypt's failure to respond to his efforts to improve relations between the two countries.

In an interview with the New York Times, Mr. Peres said that if Egypt's coolness towards Israel continued, there was a danger that the forces of peace in Israel would become discouraged and question the value of efforts to normalise relations with Arab neighbours.

In what the Times said was his first public criticism of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's government since he became prime minister last September, Mr. Peres said of efforts to improve relations: "Now it must be a mutual effort, and I can't say that I am satisfied with the mutuality of the effort."

Asked if he was satisfied with Egyptian-Israeli relations in light of the recent de facto talks over the tiny disputed Golan Heights strip, Mr. Peres said: "Frankly I wish it could go a little further than it does. You see some Israelis can say, rightly 'look, the Arabs want land for peace'."

"In the case of Egypt, 99.999 per cent of the land was returned and many Israelis are asking, did we get 99.999 per cent of peace? The Arab side must see the way

people are looking at it here."

The Times said Mr. Peres emphasised that he intended to pull the Israeli army out of Lebanon completely and was not likely to be deterred by any unrest that followed the first stage of the three-stage withdrawal, the departure from Sidon on Feb. 18.

On the economy, Mr. Peres mildly chided what he called U.S. scepticism over the voluntary wage-price agreements.

"I Washington, they were very sceptical about the means we have decided to employ, and even had the slight feeling we took the easy road. I don't agree," he said.

The United States has held up announcing further economic aid for Israel until it sees the results of its austerity programme, and Mr. Peres said he hoped that as a result of the measures Washington would approve \$800 million in emergency aid he has requested.

Shamir to visit Ottawa

Israeli Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is to visit Ottawa on March 13 and 14, it was announced Monday.

Canadian External Affairs Minister Joe Clark said in a statement the two will discuss "international matters of concern including the current situation in the Middle East, as well as bilateral issues."

Sudanese rebels release 2 journalists

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Sudanese rebels have freed two Swiss journalists they took hostage in southern Sudan almost one year ago, the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry has said.

The ministry said in a statement the two journalists, Astrid Holtenstein and Till Lincke, were handed over to the Swiss ambassador to Addis Ababa through the good offices of the Ethiopian government.

It was the second time in a week

that the Sudanese Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA), which is seeking autonomy for southern Sudan, had released foreign hostages.

The rebels handed over a Kenyan, two French nationals and a Briton to the Addis Ababa authorities last week in what they called a humanitarian gesture.

Ethiopia has denied allegations by Sudan that it backs the rebels and says the civil strife in the south of the country is a purely internal

problem.

Diplomats contacted in the Ethiopian capital by telephone from Nairobi said the Swiss couple were in reasonably good health although both had had malaria.

They said that Lincke appeared in better shape than Holtenstein. Both would be sent home to Switzerland as soon as possible.

The diplomats quoted the couple as saying they had been held in a thatched hut and had passed the time by making wooden furniture.

West puts firm pressure for new Cyprus talks

LONDON (R) — Western countries, eager to save the best chance in years of a Cyprus solution, are putting quiet but firm pressure on Greece, Turkey and the divided island's two communities to get fresh talks going, diplomats said Tuesday.

After the failure of a United Nations-sponsored meeting between leaders of the Greek Cypriot majority and the minority Turkish Cypriots, the first since 1979, the West wants to prevent the U.N. initiative from collapsing, the Western officials said.

Talks last month in New York between President Spyros Kyprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash broke up in disarray and mutual recrimination.

The United States, a substantial donor of military aid to fellow North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) members Greece and Turkey, and Britain, a guarantor of Cypriot independence, welcomed the statement by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar after the talks that "the gap has never been so narrow."

They want to give his efforts to settle the Cyprus dispute, an important cause of Greek-Turkish

rancour which weakens NATO's southern flank, maximum chances of success.

Foreign ministers of the European Community, to which Greece belongs, have publicly urged Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denktash not to do anything that would prevent another round of talks.

The president will discuss his next moves with Greek leaders during a visit to Athens starting Tuesday.

European and U.S. diplomats believe chances are good of another Denktash-Kyprianou meeting in March or April — provided both sides show restraint — even if it is not possible by the end of this month, as Mr. Perez de Cuellar has proposed.

They do not believe that Mr. Denktash, who has ruled out fresh talks with Mr. Kyprianou before June when elections are planned in the Turkish Cypriot north, has spoken his last word.

"People are trying to make sure neither side takes any irrevocable steps and makes it impossible to proceed," a U.S. diplomat said.

The West does not want to cut across a U.N. plan based on a federal Cyprus under which separate Greek and Turkish regions would

be linked under a central government.

Western officials are unhappy about Mr. Denktash's plan to hold elections in the Turkish sector, but they are not saying so publicly because they do not acknowledge the state proclaimed there in 1983, which is recognised only by Ankara.

Britain last week denied a newspaper report that it planned to "rebuke" Mr. Denktash over his election announcement, made soon after the New York talks broke up.

Some diplomats say Mr. Denktash is leaving the door open to compromise with Nicosia by planning the elections under an old constitution dating from the Turkish invasion in 1974.

This, they say, is less provocative than one alternative — pushing through a constitution drafted after the Turkish Cypriot state, which calls itself the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," was proclaimed and then holding elections.

Western governments, keen to encourage compromise, have not apportioned blame for the failure of the New York talks, caused by conflicting perceptions by Mr.

Kyprianou and Mr. Denktash of the U.N.-negotiated documents they discussed.

Among unresolved issues are a timetable for the withdrawal of Turkish troops and which countries should guarantee any settlement. Mr. Kyprianou objects to Turkey as a guarantor.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, who visits Ankara next week, is expected to urge Turkish leaders to use their influence to get Mr. Denktash back to the conference table.

Kyprianou in Athens

ATHENS (AP) — Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou arrived here Tuesday from Cyprus for urgent consultations with Greek government leaders following the recent breakdown in United Nations sponsored summit talks.

Mr. Kyprianou went direct to a meeting with President Constantine Caramanlis and Premier Andreas Papandreu.

Mr. Kyprianou came here as the worst political crisis in ten years erupted in Cyprus.

Two major parties blame Mr. Kyprianou for the failure of the summit meeting at the United Nations in New York.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS
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FOR THE TRAVELLER

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CDD warns public as rain, snow is forecast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Meteorological Department expects more rain for Tuesday night and Wednesday and possible snow on high regions in Jordan.

A department spokesman said that a cold front coming from the Arctic regions and passing through Eastern Europe will be affecting Jordan accompanied with cold winds and near freezing temperatures.

He said that minimum temperature expected is one degree centigrade rising to a maximum of six in the hilly regions. In the desert, from one degree to eight, and in the Jordan Valley from 11 tonight going up to 16 degrees Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the Civil Defence Department has issued a warning to the public in view of the continuous rainfall. The warning advised

the public to keep away from low-lying areas and streams and to take extra precautions to prevent flooding in their homes.

A department spokesman urged the public to ask help from civil defence staff whenever required and to cooperate with civil defence teams by keeping all culverts and canals open to facilitate the flow of water.

In Salt, it was announced that precautionary measures have been taken in view of the weather conditions. Salt Mayor Abdul Razzak Nsour said that municipality teams have cleared all culverts from earth and stones and said municipality emergency squads will remain alert and ready to offer help to the public. The mayor advised citizens to move away from low lying regions and wadis to avoid danger.

Tapline informs Jordan of cut in oil prices

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Trans-Arabian Pipeline Company, Tapline, has informed the Jordanian government of a cut in the price of Saudi oil from \$29 to \$28 a barrel in implementation of an agreement reached in Geneva earlier this month.

Tapline's representative in Jordan, Jamal Al Sarireh, said that the new rate will take effect from Feb. 1st. But, he said, that this does not include the cost of transporting the crude from Saudi Arabia to Jordanian territory, now fixed at \$1.25 per barrel.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) decided at its meeting in Geneva to make cuts in oil prices, and Saudi oil light crude which Jordan buys will go down by \$1 a barrel.



WEIZSAECKER DEPARTS — West German President Richard von Weizsaecker (left) Tuesday bids farewell to cabinet members and

Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat at the end of the president's three-day official visit to Jordan. (Petra photo)

CDD to give better, faster services

RSS to design civil defence early warning system

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Tuesday signed a cooperation agreement under which the RSS will design, prepare and implement programmes for the computerised system which will be installed at the CDD as part of an early warning fire system.

The agreement which was signed by CDD Director General Khaled Al Tarawneh and RSS President Fakhreddine Daghestani, stipulates drawing up complete documents for each computerised system. According to an RSS spokesman, the documents include the organisational structure, programmes, application forms, files, reports, lists and the operational system.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the RSS spokesman added that the 14 month agreement also provides for programming the computerised system with information on the CDD's financial situation and administration status.

Training courses

He said that the RSS will also hold training courses for CDD staff and personnel on using the computerised systems and will also supervise the operation process of programmes until the CDD personnel are capable of operating the systems. The RSS has conducted a feasibility study on working systems and recommended the source and the price, the spokesman added.

Last week, General Tarawneh was quoted as saying that the early warning fire system is due to be finalised during 1985. He said that the system aims to prompt reporting on accidents and fires to

enable civil defence personnel to respond to emergency cases on the spot.

In a statement he gave to the Jordan Times, Gen. Tarawneh outlined the project as a joint cooperation between the CDD and the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) at the Ministry of Communications, which aims to install static telephone sets in companies and factories located far from available telephone services. He said the system will function within a circle of 30 kilometre radius in Amman and telephone sets will be installed in cars for the same purpose.

According to Gen. Tarawneh, the system will operate through the telephone sets which transfer signals to the operation room at the CDD. These signals carry calls for emergency, rescue or fire which will transfer into a data to be fed to a special computer. The computer takes the data and analyses it providing information about the site of the emergency, the nearest way to the site, the number of employees working, the material produced or stored at the site in question, houses and population in the vicinity and the nearest supply water tanks.

"The data is then systematically conveyed to the nearest CDD centre to the location of the accident which will ensure prompt services," Gen. Tarawneh said.

No more bilharzia cases reported to authorities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry has announced that no more cases of bilharzia in Jordan have been reported over the past four days and that the total number of Jordanians infected by the disease totalled 21.

The director of the ministry's Malaria and Bilharzia Department, Dr. Mohammad Rida Tawfiq, was quoted by the local press as saying that the infected persons were all from Al Mazar region in southern Jordan but added that they were all treated

and cured. The ministry took speedy measures to eliminate bilharzia snails in the water of the Barbatieh springs, where these infected people were said to have swum, and conducted a survey and laboratory tests to determine areas infested with bilharzia snails, he said.

The Health Ministry will open eight new health centres in the south to combat bilharzia and malaria and to conduct laboratory tests on workers from Arab countries employed in Jordanian projects, he added.

Dead Sea resthouse to open soon as TID plans more tourist facilities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Tourist Investments Department (TID) of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) is now putting the finishing touches to the Dead Sea resthouse and plans to formally open it to the public in the second half of this month, according to TID Director Zuhair Ajlouni. Work on this project started four months ago and it is hoped that the resthouse will attract many Jordanians and other visitors to the Dead Sea, especially in the winter season, Mr. Ajlouni said in an interview with Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The resthouse has been built on a 23-dunum area on the coast of the Dead Sea, near Sweimeh and has been designed to offer services and facilities to visitors at a nominal cost. Mr. Ajlouni added. He said that the new resthouse has a parking lot for at least 500 cars, a modern restaurant which can accommodate 250 people and a special section for children, in addition to two swimming pools whose water has been drawn from the Dead Sea.

Also, there are stalls for selling light snacks and shady areas to accommodate up to 750 people at one time, Mr. Ajlouni said. He said that the Ministry of Agriculture provided the TID with 3,000 tree saplings which have been planted around the site.

The TID has plans for building chalets to allow visitors to stay near the Dead Sea and enjoy swimming in its water and will help operate regular public transportation to the Dead Sea from Amman, Mr. Ajlouni announced. He said that from the Seventh Circle in Jabal Amman to the Dead Sea it is only 50 kilometres and added that visitors can easily

spend the week-end at the new facilities.

Azraq resthouse

According to Mr. Ajlouni, the TID will embark on developing the Azraq oasis resthouse as soon as work on the Dead Sea resthouse has been completed. The TID plans to build chalets and swimming pools at Azraq and the mineral springs that have been discovered recently there.

He said that Azraq is an oasis lying in the midst of a desert, but it has great tourist potential that should be exploited. The reach Azraq, one can take the usual Zarqa road or follow a 70-kilometre highway through Jweideh, Mr. Ajlouni said.

Other projects

After Azraq, the TID plans to develop the resthouse at Petra where a library, cinema and children's facilities will be built and then at Dibbin and Shetfina in the north, which are both visited by tourists and local people in the summer, Mr. Ajlouni said. These projects will be followed by similar ones at Karak resthouse and the Aqaba hotel which the TID owns along with two other hotels in Amman and 19 resthouses around the country.

In its drive to develop domestic tourism, the TID cooperates with other government departments, Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and tourist agencies in Jordan. Mr. Ajlouni said. He said that staff employed at the hotels and resthouses owned by the TID receive local training.

Images in subtle, grainy brushstrokes

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Even the most abstract of paintings have the habit of turning into something familiar, something recognisable before your eyes and this is particularly true of the work of Spanish-born artist Clara Amado Jerez, now on show at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

ART REVIEW

Having decided that her small paintings, full of rapid brushstrokes with subdued matt colours were totally non-representational, they immediately began to turn into faces, curving shorelines, doorways and Nabatean caves where the sunlight floods in to scatter the gathering gloom. The images, the feelings, these paintings convey came gradually, seemingly of their own accord, from nowhere and although initially flimsy insubstantial and prone to change, once established they became as real as if the artist had painted them from life.

Some, however, stubbornly refused to become anything but areas of undulating pigment across whose subtle tones of beige brown and rich turquoises swirling spontaneous lines of brighter colour flowed. Generally, these tended to

be the ones which incorporated the letter "A" in their subtle grainy pastel effect. Amado has managed to produce a provocative body of work. A great part of the attraction lies in the confident, unhesitating brushstrokes of colour that fly across the paper belching Amado's craftsmanship and innate knowledge of form and colour that make these paintings work and give them the power to hold the viewer and stir his thoughts.

The exhibition of Amado's work, which have all been created since she came to Jordan about a year

ago, runs until February 15. positions, an "A" which stood for the three ideas the artist was trying to convey love, friendship and art which in Spanish all begin with "A". But the dark sombre colours and the foreboding atmosphere they create capture not the joyful side of these emotions but their sadder more melancholic moments.

Pastel effect

Using an unusual mixture of powdered pigment and acrylic paint, which produces a rich but



Painting by Clara Amado Jerez incorporating the letter "A" to convey love, friendship and art, which in Spanish, all begin with this letter.

McKenzie-Ware duo combine warmth, precision in memorable performance

By Jean Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The brilliance of the McKenzie-Ware Duo performance at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) theatre, on Monday went beyond expectation. An almost fully-booked concert hall helped create a warm atmosphere from the very beginning.

The personal charm and presence of Barbara McKenzie-Ware and Allan Ware were among the ingredients which, in addition to their great musical talent, contributed to a very successful performance. The way Allan Ware introduced some of the compositions they interpreted, his compliment to the Royal Cultural Centre — "one of the most beautiful concert halls in the Middle East... I think the Jordanian people should be proud of it" — and the obvious harmony between the two performers, all established instant communication with the audience.

More than two very talented performers, Barbara McKenzie-Ware and Allan Ware are true musicians, with an attractive personality which appears clearly through the transparency of their playing. If we admit that musical interpretation is a way to express oneself, then the McKenzie-Ware Duo have fully succeeded.

Building bridges

The repertoire they presented included Francis Poulenc, Vaughn Williams, Johannes Brahms, Scott Joplin, George Gershwin, Bennie Goodman and Gary Smart. With such names, the sometimes difficult marriage of classical and jazz (or even folk) music seems impossible, especially when one considers Brahms and Goodman, who apparently do not have much in common. The truth is music has no boundaries and can build bridges between different styles, in spite of the many labels some people

like to put on those styles.

"The Four Studies in English Folk Songs," an adaptation to classical by Vaughn Williams of folk melodies is a good example of how successful such a marriage can be. These studies were superbly interpreted by the duo, whilst a dream-like piano playing by Barbara McKenzie-Ware, Brahms' sonata in F-minor, with some difficult passages, enhanced the virtuosity of both performers. Allan Ware is undoubtedly a master of the clarinet.

The second part of the concert introduced Scott Joplin's music, and an excellent rendering of this typical style by Allan Ware's clarinet. George Gershwin's Prelude II, and more particularly Prelude III, were the closest possible to perfection. When the duo started playing some of Bennie Goodman's compositions from the old ragtime, the audience seemed to greatly appreciate the rhythm and the relaxed style of Wang Wang Blues, Tiger Rag, Sing Sing Sing and their witty ending.

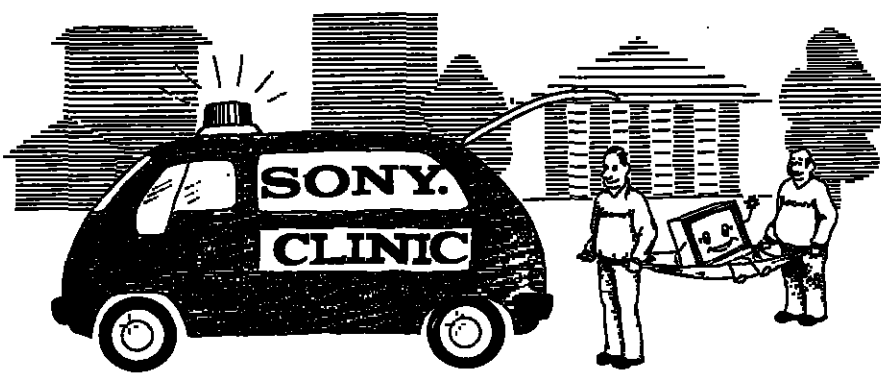
Smart's 'Homage'

Perhaps the most interesting and beautiful piece was Gary Smart's "Homage a George Gershwin". Smart is an American contemporary composer, unknown to most of us. His music reflects power, originality and precision. Whether to classify it under classical or jazz is not really important and remains a matter of opinion. The fact is his music is one of the most attractive forms of modern music we ever heard and the McKenzie-Ware Duo interpreted the composition with such sensibility that one might think they wrote it themselves.

Clarinetist Allan Ware and pianist Barbara McKenzie-Ware come from North Carolina and are presently living in West Germany. Their names have been associated with music stars like Fischer-Dieskau, who selected Barbara McKenzie-Ware as pianist for his master class, and the Cologne Chamber Orchestra where Allan Ware has performed as a soloist. Mr. Ware also plays the saxophone and writes his own music. Through mutual integration, and thanks to their dual background, the young couple have given classical music the chance to be known and accepted by a wider audience, and have also given jazz the precision it sometimes lacks.

This very successful concert was organised by the RCC and the American Centre.

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Barbara McKenzie-Ware and Allan Ware



Lesson in roots

THE ISRAELIS are at it again. The defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, yesterday accused Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation of responsibility for the recent attacks against the occupying forces and settlers in which two Israelis were killed, claiming that "Amman has become the centre of planning and of giving orders for the carrying out" those attacks.

Another unidentified Israeli official, quoted by the Associated Press yesterday, also contended that Jordan is allowing the PLO to base its guerrilla operations in Amman.

This looks like a dangerous claim, especially when the Israelis choose to forget that when guns are not available to them, the Palestinian people fight occupation with whatever means they have got: Fire bombs, stones and strikes. What did the Israeli leaders ever expect? The people under occupation would throw flowers at them?

This is typical Israel, it seems. Whenever the pressure is on, the Israelis look for the scapegoat. Well, it is not here in Amman, Mr. Rabin. It is to be found in your expansionist policies close to home. It is in your government's repressive policies against the inhabitants of Gaza and the West Bank. Did the Israelis not know that? The occupation forces have just shut more than 100 businesses and shops in Ramallah to punish merchants for not wishing to be a tool in the search for the gunman who shot and killed the Israeli soldier there on Monday. Before, Israeli courts sentenced Arab youths for up to 10 years in prison because they threw stones at settlers' cars intimidating their neighbourhoods. Every day, in fact, we learn of the Palestinians' miserable life in Dheisheh camp and elsewhere in the occupied territories, in schools and universities and homes.

Yitzhak Shamir, the champion of Jewish settlers, admitted two days ago that his comrades were hysterical in their outward behaviour and statements against the Arabs. Now Rabin wants us to believe that the danger is coming from the outside. What logic is this, if the whole of what the defence minister is saying to the Knesset is not just a dirty ploy. Let him go get the fighters who are kicking his army out of South Lebanon first. He needs a lesson in the root cause of the Palestinian problem, at any rate.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Bonn urges better U.S. stand

THE WEST German president announced before Jordanian journalists in Amman Monday that the main aim of his visit to Jordan was to extend support for efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful solution to the Middle East question. He also voiced his country's support for the right of the Palestinian people in determining their own future and Bonn's backing for an international conference in which all concerned parties can participate to achieve just peace.

This statement together with the president's speech at a banquet held in his honour by King Hussein reflect the West Germany's determination to help in the peace process, and also gives rise for optimism on our part that the European Community, to which West Germany belongs, will play a vital role towards achieving this end.

The president has called on the United States to take a firm position with regard to the Middle East question which implies that Washington has to date failed to take steps needed for the establishment of real peace. This reminds the Arabs of Washington's abortive policies in Lebanon and its total bias towards Israel. But the most important thing is the fact that the president's statement contradicts with the American stand and Washington's refusal of an international conference to seek a genuine peace for this region.

Sawt Al Shaab: European concerns over Mideast

WE ARE encouraged by the West German president's statements about the Middle East because they reflect Bonn's keenness on the establishment of real peace in our region. The president has supported the policy of King Hussein and his efforts for bringing about a just and durable peace and also for his policies towards Egypt and the Palestinian people.

We are encouraged by the president's support for an international conference on the Middle East in which all concerned parties can take part. He said that the Palestine problem cannot be solved unless the Palestinian people are allowed to play a basic part in the quest for a solution. These statements reflect the thinking and understanding by Europeans of the need for peace and for settling the Palestine problem. They also reflect the concern of Europe not only about the consequences of the Iran-Iraq conflict in the Gulf but also the danger inherent in the explosive situation along the Arab-Israeli confrontation lines. The European nations realise that their interests in the Arab region would not be protected unless peace and stability were established. Above all, the Europeans reject the idea of the use of force for occupying other countries' territories and, therefore, they reject Israel's policies and denounce its continued occupation of Arab lands.

Al Dustour: Israel practises state terrorism

LEADING GOVERNMENT members in Israel have openly joined forces with the Zionist settlers and the terrorist groups now trying to uproot the Arabs from their lands in the occupied West Bank. Several Knesset members have led the move together with Rabbi Moshe Levinger and the Gush Emunim leaders who have been concentrating their efforts lately to storm Dheisheh camp and evict its inhabitants by force of arms.

These actions have exposed the collusion of the Israeli government, which at first condoned terrorist actions against Palestinians and then allowed several of its members to join the criminal groups in their adventures. There are lots of examples about the crimes committed against the Arab population and terrorist actions being launched daily with the purpose of forcing the Arabs to abandon their homeland.

We want all countries that have been helping the Zionists to carry their crimes through aid to Israel to see for themselves the present situation in the occupied West Bank and to witness the wave of terrorism being practised against innocent people. We want the United States to take notice of the crimes committed against the Arabs with American aid.

The new evangelists of the bullet

By Musa Keilani

"IF ANYONE slew a person — unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the land — it would be as if he slew the whole people."

With this verse, His Majesty King Hussein condemned Iran's government for the organised killing of Iraqi prisoners of war — essentially a terrorist act.

Within days of the King's message of condemnation to the world's Islamic leadership, a terrorist in Bucharest and four others aboard a Kuwaiti airliner symbolically aligned the whole people of Jordan and Kuwait in their gunsights.

People here and in the Gulf states are convinced that the ultimate hands behind those terrorists' guns are those of Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini and Libya's Col. Muammar Qadhafi. Both are increasingly turning to terrorism in pursuit of their political goals. Moreover, experts maintain that Khomeini's and Qadhafi's international terrorism is a predictable extension of their personalities and willingness to level the weapon of terrorism at their own people.

Khomeini, whose perceptible character traits are ruthlessness, vengeance and intractability, has old links to terrorism through Iran's Fedayin-e-Eslami. Founded in 1945, the organisation promoted fundamentalist fanaticism and assassination of its enemies.

From exile in Iraq, Khomeini reportedly ordered Fedayin-e-Eslami's assassination of the late Shah's Prime Minister Hassan Ali Mansur, who allegedly slapped Khomeini in a pre-exile interview.

From An Najaf, Khomeini not only dictated revolutionary sermons, but with reported Qadhafi financing, organised terrorist arms shipments to Iran and some 2,500 Iranian terrorists' training in Lebanon and Syria. In a 1978 campaign of terrorist cinema arson, Khomeinists set Abadan's Rex Cinema ablaze. In the incident,

presaging Khomeini's later wholesale executions, 377 people died.

For his part, Qadhafi — who like Khomeini seems removed from the world's realities — has long manifested the traits of a petulant child. In the early 1970s, many observers noted the colonel's willful habit of retreating to sulk in the desert to exact compliance from his fellow revolutionaries.

Such behavior in an adult, say psychologists, is a sign of serious mental disturbance. First-hand accounts support this diagnosis. Recently, for instance, a group of European journalists, emerged from a two-hour interview with Qadhafi struck by his utter incoherence. "Personally," said one editor, "I think he's just gone ga-ga."

Mad or merely calculating, Qadhafi is as much a terrorist within his borders as beyond them. Libya's dissenting imams have been tortured and incarcerated in underground cells.

In 1980, Qadhafi boasted that his revolutionary committee had "relieved" him of Sheikh Muhammad Al Bishti by "liquidating him physically."

In April 1975, Qadhafi incarcerated 120 dissenting university students in camp April 17, where they were tortured and brainwashed. Since then, Qadhafi's revolutionary committee has ritually hanged university students in April.

By 1972, Qadhafi was sponsoring international terrorism with a fund of \$5 million. When terrorists attacked a diplomatic reception at Saudi Arabia's Khartoum Embassy in 1973, they did so with weapons smuggled into Sudan in Libya's diplomatic pouch. Later, according to European sources, Soviet-made weapons purchased by Qadhafi were reshipped through Bulgaria to Italian and West German terrorists.

Meanwhile, international terrorists flocked to Libya for training camps like April 17. In

1974, Moroccan authorities intercepted 16 terrorists, trained in Libya and bent on assassinating Arab World leaders at the Rabat summit. And in 1976, Tunisian authorities reported that 2,400 Tunisians were training in Libya.

The large Tunisian presence reflected little more than Qadhafi's petulance over President Habib Bourguiba's rejection of the colonel's 1974 merger bid — a motivation, say diplomats, that underlies much Qadhafi-sponsored terrorism in the Arab World today.

When Anwar Sadat retreated from the 1972 draft accord for Libya-Egypt merger, Qadhafi targeted Egypt with escalating terrorism. In 1974, Qadhafi-sponsored fanatics attacked the Cairo military academy in an abortive coup attempt. In the ensuing two years, Egyptian authorities intercepted a veritable stream of Libyan terrorist teams, variously bent on blowing up

Sadat's summer residence, assassinating prominent Egyptians and destroying Cairo's massive Al-Tahrir government office complex.

Predictably, this initial terrorist campaign against Egypt coincided with Qadhafi's first efforts to destabilise the government of Sudan's President Jaafar Numeiri, who had also declined the colonel's union bids. For three days in July 1976, 2,000 Qadhafi-sponsored coupists occupied key Khartoum facilities, until quelled by the authorities.

These events, say terrorism analysts, were harbingers of mayhem to come. In the 1980s, operating through an alliance of convenience and an increasingly complex web of terrorists, Qadhafi and Khomeini are honing the power mechanism of terrorism into a virtual weapon of war. Their primary targets, say diplomats, are the duly constituted governments of the Arab World.

U.S. leans over backward to accommodate Israel's requirements

THE WAY in which the United States leans over backwards to accommodate Israel's economic requirements is well known, but less attention has been focused on the European Community's (EC) tendency to do the same.

In 1975 Israel reached a Free Trade and Co-operation Agreement with the EC, under which Tel Aviv gained extensive tariff concessions on the entry of its goods to the European market. In return, Israel lowered its tariffs on European goods.

The aim was for a progressive elimination of all duties, and the EC has lifted barriers to the entry of Israel's major exports to Europe. Under a recently signed financial protocol, however, the EC has allowed Israel to delay the abolition of its duties on European industrial goods until 1989. The situation now is that Israel's main exports enter Europe duty free, while Europe's main exports face tariff barriers in Israel. As the "Jewish Chronicle" noted on Jan. 11, the new protocol will "give

Israel a further breathing space before certain sensitive industries face free competition from European imports."

It is not the first time that Israel has shown its concern that "free trade" agreements should only work one way. Late last year the United States agreed in principle to establish a free trade area with Israel, but Israeli manufacturers were aghast at the prospect of competition from U.S. imports. Ever since, Israeli diplomats have been seeking a formula to meet

these objections.

For Washington, the free trade agreement with Israel is important because it offers a means of penetrating the EC's tariff wall. U.S. goods will be shipped to Israel for finishing, and will then be re-exported to Europe under the Israel-EC cooperation agreement.

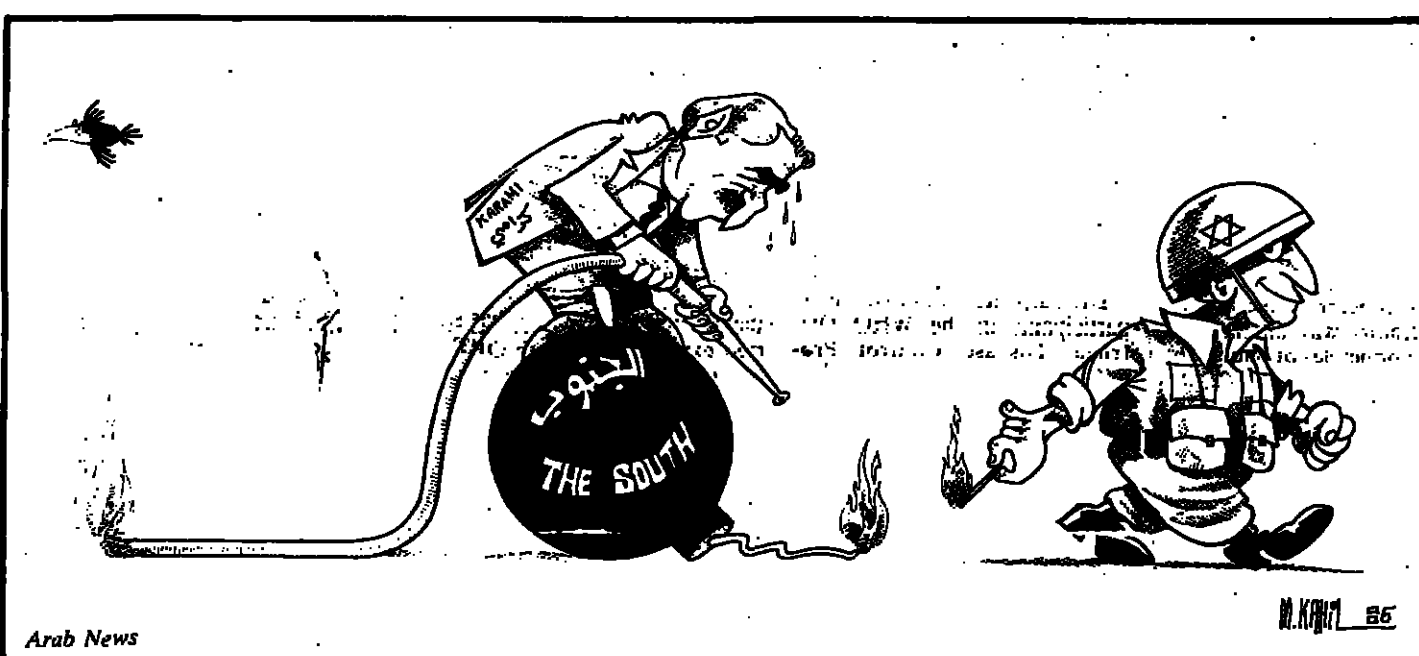
That the Israeli-U.S. agreement will operate in this way was made clear by Israeli lobbyists in the run-up to the accord's approval. Giving evidence to the Senate

Finance last February, Elmer Winter, chairman of the U.S. Committee on Economic Relations with Israel (and former chairman of the American Jewish Committee, a major pro-Israel lobby group), declared that a free trade agreement would enable U.S. companies to find new markets in Europe, via Israel.

For Israeli exporters, however, the generous measures agreed by the EC are even more important than those approved by President

Reagan. The EC accounts for 40 per cent of Israel's trade, and the U.S. for only 20 per cent. Europe looks set to become even more important for the Israeli economy. British-Israeli trade increased by £100 million in 1984, to reach an annual level of £800 million — CAABU Bulletin.

CAABU Bulletin is a monthly circular published by the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British understanding, London.



South Korean opposition grows new teeth as general elections draw near

President Chun Doo-Hwan's government in South Korea faces a challenge in the February elections from a new political party, Steven B. Budenz reports that the government will have to tread carefully to preserve its claims of gradual political liberalisation.

SEOUL — The launch of a new opposition party by followers of South Korea's two leading dissidents, Mr. Kim Dae-Jung and Mr. Kim Young-Sam, promises a stronger challenge to the government in national assembly elections next month (February) than had been expected.

Both men are barred from taking part in politics. Mr. Kim Dae-Jung, the most serious opponent of President Chun Doo-Hwan, says he will return from voluntary exile in the U.S. on Feb. 8, four days before the election, to continue his "struggle for democracy".

The government has said it will arrest Mr. Kim should he return, ostensibly to resume a prison term for crimes committed before he was allowed to go abroad for medical treatment in 1982.

Many believe that Mr. Kim's political influence has created "He's not going to sweep the nation off its feet," says a diplomat. But, according to one opposition assemblyman, his very presence in the country will give the opposition "strength and confidence".

In any case, his return could set off unpredictable events in South Korea, where he is often compared to the late Mr. Benigno Aquino, whose assassination at Manila airport in 1983 set off a wave of political unrest in the Philippines.

The government has responded to the creation of the new opposition party, the New Korea Democratic Party, by refusing to allow Mr. Kim Young-Sam, the other important opposition leader, to attend founding ceremonies for local branches of the new party.

A senior government official

said the action was a "humanitarian preventive measure". If Mr. Kim attended the ceremonies, the official said, the government might be forced to take more stern measures and formally arrest him.

The new political party has complained of government harassment. The Central Election Commission has hampered its operations by processing registration papers at a snail's pace, party officials say, and a threat to potential donors of an intensive tax investigation has cut off its funds. When the party moved into new offices, the landlord stopped the lift from running, forcing party members to carry furniture up 10 flights of stairs.

Mr. Choi Chang-Yoon, a presidential secretary for political affairs, denied that there has been any systematic attempt to harass the new party, and said that once it is formally established, its difficulties will disappear.

No-one expects this new opposition activity to result in an upset defeat of the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), however, for Korea's electoral laws give a large advantage to the political party receiving the highest vote.

In the last election, the DJP, facing two major opposition parties, won a 53 per cent majority of the seats in the Assembly with only 35.6 per cent of the popular vote. In this election, with the opposition vote split among three parties, analysts expect the DJP to come out on top again.

But, according to one diplomat, if the DJP vote slips below that at the last election the opposition will become more vocal and demand more influence. "The government's ability to manipulate the political opposition may be falling apart," he said.

Critics have repeatedly charged that the opposition parties currently in the Assembly — the Democratic Korea Party and the Korea National Party — are simply inventions of the government designed to create a democratic facade.

Opposition party leaders have been known to discipline members for excessively harsh criticism of the government, and conflict over party discipline and other factional questions led to the defection of 10 DKP members to the new party in December.

Government officials deny the opposition is manipulated or docile. They say that opposition pressure on budget bills, or on controversial items such as local autonomy legislation or election laws, has resulted in significant compromises from the ruling party.

"Ask any cabinet minister," says Mr. Lee Tae-Sup, first minister of state for political affairs. "What they dislike most is to go to the National Assembly and have to answer questions."

It is widely understood, however, that opposition criticism should not extend to the president and should not question the premises of the political system.

The government points to cooperation and compromise with the opposition parties as a major sign of South Korea's "political development", but the cooperation deeply disturbs many government opponents, many of whom still refuse to accept the legitimacy of Mr. Chun's presidency.

Mr. Chun's rise to power followed a coup in the army in December 1979, after the assassination of Mr. Park Chung-Hee, a former military officer who ruled South Korea for 18 years. Mr. Chun, a two-star general, later shed his uniform and ran for the presidency as a civilian.

But before this poll, 835 politicians had been banned from taking part, and there had been a vio-

lent uprising in the southern city of Kwangju, where several hundred people died. Residents of the city remain bitter over the events, blaming Mr. Chun.

Kwangju is in the home province of Mr. Kim Dae-Jung, and his supporters there remain fiercely loyal to his cause. They are calling for a revision of the constitution to allow direct election of the president. The system of indirect elections can too easily be manipulated by the government, they say.

The government maintains that there can be genuine competition in the next presidential election, when political rights will have been restored to nearly all politicians. Mr. Chun has promised repeatedly to step aside in 1988, when his term of office expires, leading the way for the first peaceful transfer of presidential power in South Korea's history.

It is clear, however, that a bold opposition will put the government into a ticklish position this time. The government has so far taken great pride in the maintenance of political stability through gradual liberalisation. Although the pace of liberalisation has hardly satisfied critics, the government has yet to take a serious step backwards.

If the criticism becomes more vocal, the government might find it tempting to strike back at the challenge to its authority. Yet, if it were to clamp down on opposition politicians who have only recently been allowed to be active again, it would call into question its entire political programme, as well as suffer serious embarrassment at home.

Abroad, such action would mar the image the government has been trying to protect of a stable, legal democracy, and could lead to greater pressure from its closest political and military ally, the United States — Financial Times news feature.

LETTERS

Torture at Heathrow Airport

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to bring to your attention a most intimidating experience to which I was subjected on Jan. 17 night by an Immigration Officer at Heathrow Airport, hoping that others would never have to encounter such an experience.

I came to England as visiting professor late June 1984, seeking to publish a sociology book, whilst my wife has been working as a medical doctor in London since April 1984.

Having secured the acceptance of my book's publication, I left for overseas to promote my book, then to the Holy Land to celebrate Christmas, and came back on Jan. 17, 1985.

Back at Heathrow Airport I was asked by a female Immigration Officer, Stamp No. 201, if I was on a holiday or seeking employment. I noted that I preferred to have a work permit being dependent on my spouse. She said that I would be given a work permit upon viewing my wife's work permit. I agreed as my wife was going to meet me there five hours later at Heathrow after she completed her work by 9:00 p.m. that night.

Five minutes afterwards, another Immigration Officer, Stamp No. 380, Mr. Nigel Flatman, sternly told me to follow him and ordered me then to open my suitcases, which I did. After a search of about 20 minutes he said he wanted to take away every single paper, letter and document which I was trying to read to myself.

I told him that I would be concerned if he took away my traveller checks and private letters. His response was that he became very angry and said: "Don't be too silly or I'll make it hard for you. I am going to read everything away in my own room and have all non-English papers translated."

I then warned Mr. Flatman against attributing adjectives to my character, but agreed with hesitation that he should read all the papers he had in hand, which he did. He said it was necessary for him to read all the papers "in order to establish my true identity."

Inquired if my passport was not sufficient for this purpose. Instead he drilled the following questions at me: Was my father Palestinian or Jew? Why was my accent American? Was I to take up employment in England? Did my wife hold on to her pre-marriage surname? Why? What was my profession? Why did I carry an Australian passport? How much money did I have in the bank? and "Why did I keep coming back to England? and so on and so forth."

In all, the interrogation lasted for 55 minutes, non-stop. In then told him of my intention, being an Australian citizen, to bring this whole episode to the attention of the Australian high commissioner. In a few seconds, Mr. Flatman handed me back my passport bearing a visa stamp for six months.

Immediately, I headed towards his supervisor's office, and detailed to his supervisor, Mr. Hore, my hour-long unnecessary experience of flagrant intimidation. I made it clear to Mr. Hore that I did not mind being asked questions nor my bags searched, though I was extremely upset about the rough manner, threatening tone and the unnecessary humiliation in front of a few stunned visitors. Whatever explanation is given — a systematic discrimination or professional incompetence — I was treated unfairly.

Needless to stress how hair-raising this experience was, a few points need to be surfaced.

Firstly, if Mr. Flatman, for some reason or another, is opposed to Australian citizens (with American accents but without Anglo-Saxon names) visiting Britain, then this should be made public to the Australian, American and Middle Eastern communities. If however, he is prejudiced against either Jews or Palestinians, I would then be astonished if the British government officially approves this kind of behaviour amongst its Immigration officers.

If Mr. Flatman is concerned about the economy of the country, let me assure him that I have spent more money in England than the average visitor.

If Mr. Flatman behaved in this manner towards me as a "Third World" national, he is both mistaken (I clearly do not qualify in this category, not by nationality, appearance nor accent) and unfair if this attitude interferes in his line of duty.

If however, he behaved in such a way because of my birth place, then he would be discriminating against the birth place of Jesus Christ himself.

Whatever the motive, we originally came to England simply because we liked it. This Immigration officer has partially succeeded in shaking this belief. His insult however to my person, my wife, fellow Christians, Australians, Palestinians, Jews, Americans and minority groups should stop once and for all.

Dr. I. W. Ata,
International University,
London, U.K.

Fall in oil revenues hits Gulf Arab trading houses

The drastic fall in oil revenues has forced the Arabian Peninsula's big trading houses to improve the management of their businesses. Many of the smaller, more poorly-run houses are going under, reports Michael Field.

THE REVENUES OF THE Arabian Peninsula oil states have been cut nearly in half in the last three years. In 1981 the combined oil, gas and investment income of the six countries — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman — ran to some \$170 billion. Last year it was about \$100 billion.

The big trading houses, the family conglomerates that are involved in every business in the states from importing and manufacturing to contracting and real estate, felt that they have been hit hard by the fall in income and the recession that has followed it.

From the comments of the owners and their Western managers it seems that the average trading house has suffered a fall in turnover of about 25-30 per cent in the last two years.

After government revenues began to fall in 1982, the recession took longer to arrive than most businessmen expected — mainly because the Arab private sectors

were generating more of their countries' gross national products than had been realised. They were doing more business among themselves and were therefore less dependent for their prosperity on a high level of government spending than they had been in the 1970s.

However, from the autumn of 1983 the drop in sales has been severe and the fall in profits has been dramatic.

The cautious and conservative men who have built most of the leading merchant houses are even more reluctant to talk about profits than about turnover figures, but, again from odd comments, it emerges that they have suffered declines in net revenues of as much as 75 per cent.

Even so, as the general manager of one of the biggest Gulf trading houses put it recently, by European standards the profits of well-managed companies are still "rather nice."

Managers say that they hope that the market will plateau in 1985 (though they fear a continuing slight decline) and then they predict with forced confidence that they will begin building their companies again in 1986.

Whatever happens they will be operating in a very different market. Even if government revenues were to be higher, which they might be at the end of the decade but not before, there would not be a return of high state spending on construction simply because most of the major projects have been completed.

It is not only contractors that are affected by this. In the past two years there has been an especially big decline in the markets for construction materials and equipment, machinery and trucks. These were the basis of the business of most of the biggest trading houses in the 1970s, particularly in Saudi Arabia. Here government spending was highest and the population was somewhat poorer than in the Gulf states, which meant that it bought fewer consumer goods.

In the rest of this decade, as in the last two or three years, the major areas of expansion will be non-durable consumer goods

(particularly modern, packaged foods), operation and maintenance services directed mainly at the governments as clients, and sophisticated electronics.

For potential industrial investors there are opportunities for making more complex types of products — electrical goods, foundry products and intermediate chemical goods — than have been manufactured in Arabia so far.

The overall picture will be of a market orientated more to the private sector.

The shakeout being brought about by the change is healthy, it is argued by big companies and governments, once more with slightly forced confidence.

According to a member of the Saudi government, speaking privately at the end of last year, the recession "... is the best thing that has happened to our society". He added: "For the first time we see people looking at decisions — why should I buy these cars for the company, why should I give this expatriate a villa when I know he has an apartment at home? People are looking carefully for the best source of materials — it's something that is normal in the West but had been forgotten here."

"Suddenly there's a big demand for used cars. Every week there are auctions of second-hand contractors' plant. Now people can no longer just hold on to equipment, they sell it."

Another aspect of this rationalisation and belt-tightening involves companies becoming more specialised. In the past it was the practice for Arab trading companies to take on virtually any agency they were offered and to branch into any sector of the economy that seemed to be growing; now companies are shedding agencies.

For example, in Dubai the Futaim Group has got out of commodity trading, freight forwarding (of the removals type — it is still in cargo forwarding) and agricultural supplies (other than equipment). It is enjoying a resurgence in demand for high value European watches.

One of the company's competitors, Galadari Brothers, has abandoned consumer electronics, where the competition is savage and the market shrinking as the Asian labourer population declines, but is investing heavily in a chain of Baskin Robbins ice-cream parlours, which should appeal to

an increasingly bourgeois Arab population.

These types of changes in all the well-managed companies have been accompanied by a reduction of staff, virtually all of whom are expatriates, with consequent savings in housing and air fares. In the Futaim Group's Toyota operation staff have been cut from 760 to 550 in the past 12 months.

Companies that have not changed with the recession are simply fading away. Government officials are even more hard-hearted in commenting on this than they are on the economies being forced on healthy firms. According to the Association of Saudi Chambers of Commerce, "many of the companies that are in difficulties should not have been there to start with ... those companies that expanded too fast and relied too much on personal contacts to get things done will be no loss."

The companies with problems, contractors especially, have tended to blame their misfortunes on late payments by government authorities trying to improve their cash flow, and there is no question that ministries and other agencies have been delaying their payments by stretching their approval

to work carried out over unreasonably long periods. But it has emerged in the last few months that those companies that have collapsed or have had to reschedule their loans have mainly their own mismanagement to blame.

The contractor, Carlson Al Saudia, which ceased operations at the end of last summer, had bid too low for its projects and had carried out work incompetently, which has made the Saudi authorities feel wholly justified in withholding payments.

The well established Al and Fahd Shobokshi company had to reschedule its \$400 million of bank debt partly because its contracting subsidiary had failed correctly to assess the scale of work required on two projects.

It also had the bad luck to be hit by the downturn of the Saudi market before it was earning income on some of its major investments outside the kingdom. It was hoping to fund the completion of these projects partly from Saudi cash flow.

Another company that has been forced into negotiations with its banks, Halwani Brothers, over-invested in its food processing factories. These are highly integrated — which makes them very impressive to visitors — but for precisely this reason their costs have been too high.

It is assumed in the Arabian Peninsula that the difficulties of a few major family companies will be temporary: the firms that are disappearing are small ones with little-known names.

What is happening often in these cases is that the owners fail to monitor their monthly profits or losses and are unaware of how bad things are until they simply run out of cash or their bank telephones them to say they can have no more credit.

Then they radically reduce their trading. They fire staff and stop ordering new stock, but they do not often formally go bankrupt. They feel that their honour is at stake (even if it might pay them to be declared bankrupt) and they have their large families behind them.

Also, in some states there are no proper bankruptcy laws, and in the UAE banks find it difficult to obtain execution of court judgments against people who owe them money — Financial Times news feature.

ORT rehydrates the simple way even in Europe

By Paul Evan Rees

GENEVA — A simple solution of salt, sugar and water, designed to combat the effects of cholera and acute diarrhoea among children in developing countries, is revolutionising the treatment of diarrhoea in the developed world of high-tech medicine.

Hospitals in the United States, Britain, Finland, the German Democratic Republic (GDR), Sweden and other technologically advanced countries are replacing traditional intravenous drips and hospitalisation in pediatric wards with a solution of oral rehydration salts given to drink to children by their parents at home.

"It is encouraging to see a therapeutic advance which has been developed in the poorer countries of the world becoming acceptable in the more advanced industrialised countries," says Dr. William A.M. Cutting of the Department of Child Life and Health of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

"Generally speaking, the medical establishment in the developed world feels it has nothing to learn from the 'Third World' countries and worse, has convinced most 'Third World' medical circles that they have nothing to offer us. But the spread of medical knowledge and understanding is a two-way street, and a simple therapy is often a better therapy for most patients."

On the basis of a study by 12 American and Panamanian doctors, Dr. Charles C.J. Carpenter, chairman of the Department of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, declared in an editorial in The New England Journal of Medicine that oral rehydration should be "accepted not only as an equal, but perhaps as the superior means of treating acute diarrheal illnesses in the sophisticated and sanitised medical centres of the Western world as well as in rural Bangladesh."

It is easy to understand why oral rehydration therapy (ORT) was developed for the "Third World." Every year four or five million children under the age of five die of diarrhoea in developing countries. It is the leading cause of death there.

"As if that were not sufficiently tragic," says Dr. Michael Merson, director of the World Health Organisation's Diarrheal Diseases Control Programme, "the repeated attacks of diarrhoea are a major cause of malnutrition, and faltering height and weight gain. In turn, under-nourished children suffer more severe and often more frequent attacks of diarrhoea, creating a vicious circle of diarrhoea-malnutrition-diarrhoea. To make matters worse, in many parts of the world diarrhoea cases account for 30 per cent or more of admissions to children's hospitals or wards. There, patients receive, unnecessarily, expensive intravenous fluids, antibiotics, and other drugs, creating a heavy burden for limited national health budgets of developing countries."

UNICEF — the U.N. organisation that acts to promote the health and welfare of children and their mothers — along with the World Health Organisation (WHO), other international agencies, and "Third World" governments, is encouraging the use of oral rehydration salts (ORS). UNICEF and WHO hope that by 1989 diarrhoea-control programmes will be operating in 80 developing countries and that one-third of all childhood diarrhoea cases will be receiving adequate therapy, particularly with ORS.

"Our goal," says James T. Grant, UNICEF Executive Director, "is to save the lives of at least 1.5 million children of the four to five million who die every year of diarrhoea by 1989."

But the "Third World" has no monopoly on diarrhoea as a major illness and killer of children. "In the West, diarrhoea still ranks second to respiratory diseases as the cause of non-surgical pediatric admissions (to hospitals)," Dr. Norbert Hirschhorn wrote in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. "Approximately one-half of the children receive intravenous (IV) therapy. Diarrhoea causes one-fourth of the avoidable deaths in hospitalised children."

Dr. Merson of WHO says that "the reason we want to replace the traditional IV drip and hospitalisation with ORT and treatment at the sick child's home is that ORT is more humane than IV, saves an enormous amount of money, and allows the parent to participate in the oral therapy, that is to say, to assume a real responsibility."

ORT is also safer than IV. Often it is difficult to find a vein, and the needle has to be inserted in a vein in the scalp. Needles can be dirty. The IV drip sometimes remains for more than 12 hours, a painful, even a traumatic experience for the child and the parents. Sometimes the IV drip is not carefully watched.

The Johns Hopkins-trained physician adds that IV is not the only kind of traditional treatment WHO wants to replace for most diarrhoea cases. "Mothers have been told for decades that they should not give food to their children when they have diarrhoea. They are more or less deliberately starved. We now know that, quite on the contrary, children should continue to be fed while suffering from diarrhoea. Actually, they absorb at least two-thirds of the food eaten."

The cost of a packet of oral rehydration salts for a one-litre solution is five cents. Even a relatively more expensive pharmaceutical preparation of a litre of water with the three kinds of salt and glucose sells for about \$1 to \$1.50. Obviously, such treatment is far less costly than hospitalisation and IV drip, not to mention doctors' and nurses' care of children.

Probably no doctor has had as much experience in introducing ORT to the industrialised world as Dr. Henri Vis, a professor of pediatrics at the St. Pierre Hospital of the University of Brussels. And, one might add, none has countered as much hostility.

Dr. Vis is one of those rare doctors who have practised oral rehydration therapy in both the "Third World" and the industrialised world, and successfully transferred it from a developing to a developed country. He started using ORT during a cholera epidemic in the Kivu region of Zaire in 1978. "In those days," he recalls, "we set up drinking stands along the roads in Zaire rather like those stalls for dehydrated runners that line the Olympic marathon route. We were short of litre containers so we used the ubiquitous 75cl beer bottles. This obliged us to modify the proportions of glucose and salts, but the solution worked fine."

ORT succeeded against cholera in Zaire, reasoned Dr. Vis, "why not employ it against diarrhoea in Brussels?" So, in 1980, he began to substitute ORT for IV, and home treatment for hospitalisation. His immediate success with patients did not disarm his critics — other doctors, his own hospital's administrators, pharmacists, and not least, the sick children's parents.

Dr. Vis says: "Pharmacists were annoyed at having to dispense

such cheap medicines, and all our attempts to persuade them to prepare mixtures of water, salts, and glucose failed. Once we sent an intern with a prescription for an ORS solution to a Brussels pharmacy early in the morning. Pre-tending he had a very sick child, he asked the pharmacist how fast he could prepare the solution. "Come back tomorrow morning," replied the pharmacist. When the intern insisted that his child was very ill and urgently needed the medication, the pharmacist said, "Come back at 6 o'clock tonight." Had there been a truly ill child, he could have died waiting for the solution."

Dr. Vis went on: "As for my hospital administrators, they indicated their displeasure at seeing a reduction in the number of pediatric patients admitted. This is the result of the situation prevailing in some Western European hospitals which depend on paying patients and receive no subsidies. The fundamental concern of the hospital administrators was unshared at the basic principles of public health."

"The use of ORS seemed too simple to parents who initially had no faith in it. For this reason we kept infants in the emergency ward for one or two hours during which time the solution was administered to demonstrate its effectiveness. We make our own solution every day or two. However, when we gave a bottle of it to a parent for an out-patient child, we were often told, 'But I came here for medicine and you give me water.'"

"That was four years ago when we had just introduced ORT in Belgium. Today ORT is widely accepted by pediatricians and parents. They see that it works with most cases of diarrhoea. We have treated hundreds and hundreds of children with diarrhoea with ORT, and the vast majority are not hospitalised. ORT has become standard procedure at St. Pierre University Hospital in Brussels. There is no chance of our returning to intravenous. ORS packets will soon be found in everyone's medicine chest, just like aspirin tablets."

Dr. Mary Ellen Avery, professor of pediatrics at Harvard and physician-in-chief of Boston's Children's Hospital, the country's most prestigious pediatric institution, told UNICEF that "one of the major recent advances in medicine is the recognition that an appropriate oral solution can restore hydration in most circumstances anywhere in the world. The efficiency of this approach has been well demonstrated in the developing world but less often put to the test in an urban hospital in the U.S.," Dr. Avery says.

One such test was conducted at Children's Hospital by Dr. Lynn Herzog and her colleagues, Drs. W.G. Bithoney and R.J. Grand. Their study was "designed to test the safety and efficacy of the UNICEF-WHO oral rehydration salts in the management of well-nourished outpatients with diarrheal disease in the U.S., with particular emphasis on the use of ORS as a maintenance solution in non-dehydrated patients. We conclude that ORS is safe and effective as a therapeutic and maintenance solution in well-nourished U.S. children."

The conclusions of the Boston study are supported by Dr. Mathuram Santosham, resident director of John Hopkins University's Infectious Enteric Disease Study Centre in White River, Arizona, in a study of 32 U.S. and 94 Panamanian children, all well-nourished and hospitalised with acute diarrhoea.

He also makes the point that

"frequently a history of vomiting is cited as an indication for intravenous therapy. Vomiting was not a limiting factor in the successful use of oral therapy in any of our patients, although over 70 per cent of them had a history of vomiting."

Dr. Santosham is currently preparing a medical journal article on his study of well-nourished outpatients in the U.S. which will report the successful use of the UNICEF-WHO solution.

Dr. Carpenter of Case Western Reserve says that "ORT is used by the pediatric service at the University Hospital for the rehydration of children with diarrheal disease, but it is used in a sporadic manner, depending upon the inclination of the pediatricians. I am not sure that ORT is used exclusively in any North American academic medical centre, but there are many medical centres where ORT is practised by a significant number of pediatricians."

Dr. Carpenter adds that "many participants in the WHO Diarrheal Disease Control Programme have been dismayed to find that in certain areas of the developing world, Western-trained pediatricians, well-versed in the imperatives of the authoritative English-language textbooks of pediatrics, have created major impediments not only to the promulgation of oral rehydration treatment but also to the concept of providing adequate oral caloric intake to children with acute diarrheal diseases. Indeed, local herb doctors, quick to recognise the value of oral rehydration, have often been more helpful than their Western-trained colleagues in disseminating the concept of oral rehydration."

In the northern countries of Europe ORT is radically changing the old ways of treating children with diarrhoea. As Dr. M.J. Tarlow, senior lecturer in pediatrics, East Birmingham Hospital, in Britain puts it, "In Birmingham as in Bangladesh the use of oral fluid

has revolutionised the management of acute infant gastroenteritis."

Two Finnish doctors, Timo Vesikari and Erika Isolauri, introduced ORT in their university hospital at Tampere, 100 miles north of Helsinki, three years ago. "At first there was prejudice against the method," Dr. Vesikari says, "but it melted away because of the effectiveness of ORT. Last winter the proportion of children hospitalised with acute diarrhoea who were treated by IV drip fell from 30 to 2 per cent. We made no effort to push our colleagues, we left it up to each pediatrician. Today everyone is using ORT at Tampere. It is not only as good as traditional IV therapy, it is better."

Drs. Isolauri and Vesikari have just had a paper on Oral Rehydration and Rapid Feeding accepted for publication by the Journal of Gastroenterology and Nutrition in the U.S.

In Sweden Dr. Rolf Zetterstrom, professor of pediatrics at the Karolinska Institute, has started experimenting with ORT at St. Goran's Children's Hospital in Stockholm. "Our doctors and nurses are conservative and tend to prefer IV because they think it is safer and more convenient than ORT," he says. "But I am confident in the method of ORT and I believe it will catch on in Sweden. In spite of the resistance to it, ORT is practised more and more frequently."

"Since 1979 the Institute of Childhood Infectious Diseases in Berlin-Buch has been using oral rehydration salts, known in the GDR as Oralylt," says Professor Hans W. Ocklitz. "Almost all children who would have been previously rehydrated intravenously are now given ORT. IV drips are rarely used. No side effects, metabolic or other, have been found with the use of Oralylt. Other clinics in the GDR are now using Oralylt, particularly for treating outpatient children. As a result, the Institute for Drugs and Drug

Selling Survival

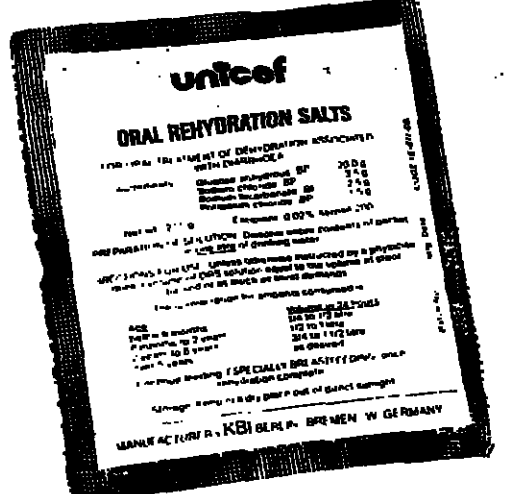
Dehydration caused by diarrhoea is the biggest single killer of children in the modern world and diarrhoea itself is one of the major causes of nutritional loss and poor growth. Now, dehydration can be prevented and nutritional losses minimised by a revolutionary new technique called Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT).

To prevent dehydration, oral rehydration salts can be made at home from ordinary household ingredients. To prevent or treat dehydration, sachets of the salts made up to the precise WHO/UNICEF formula now cost only a few cents each. But the problem is how to make them available to millions of parents throughout the world. The sachets, says UNICEF, should be household items — available from every corner shop like soap, batteries, razor-blades or Coca-Cola. — The State of the World's Children report 1985 (UNICEF).

Control has put Oralylt on the official list of medicines. This has provided a standard for all pharmacies regarding the manufacture, storage and dispensing of Oralylt.

The successful use of Oralylt in the GDR highlights how a practical treatment, developed to solve a problem in the Third World, can also be used very effectively elsewhere."

Echoing Dr. Ocklitz, Dr. Merson concludes: "ORT is good for children in developing countries, and it is equally useful and sensible for children in industrialised countries. We are, I think, on the verge of a global ORT breakthrough. And it started in the Third World." — UNICEF news feature.



World's giant clams threatened by myths, widespread predation

By Donald J. Frederick

WASHINGTON — Giant clams don't deserve their reputation as man-eaters. "They're the gentlest of creatures," says Richard L. Radtke, a marine biologist at the University of Hawaii. "There's never been a documented case of a giant clam devouring a swimmer or even grabbing an unsuspecting victim long enough to cause a drowning."

Dr. Radtke should know. He's been studying giant clams at Rose Atoll, a remote chunk of coral about 137 miles east of American Samoa. The atoll is protected as a wildlife refuge and is so isolated that it is one of the few places in the world where thousands of giant clams can still be found in a relatively confined area.

Dives despite handicap

The giant clams and the occasional sharks that nose about are the least of Dr. Radtke's worries. A victim of multiple sclerosis, the scientist gets around mostly in a wheelchair. But that doesn't stop him from donning scuba gear to do his underwater research.

"The water's a great equalizer," explains Dr. Radtke. "The freedom I have beneath the waves helps make me view my affliction as more of a nuisance than a tragedy. It's an incentive to find different ways to do things and pursue my research."

Such determination has enabled

Dr. Radtke to work in places far less congenial than the South Seas. He was the first legally handicapped scientist chosen by the National Science Foundation to do a project in Antarctica. He hopes to return there this year for another field season.

Dr. Radtke's work with the giant clam, *Tridacna maxima*, has already turned up some major surprises. Examining the hinges of the creatures with a scanning electron microscope, he discovered minute laminations. He suspects these markings, which look like curving lines when magnified, may be added annually, much like the rings that mark a tree's growth.

Microscopic, straight-line laminations inside the valves or shells seem to occur daily.

Based on these findings, Dr. Radtke estimates that the clams reach their biggest size, about 16 inches long and 15 pounds, when they are about 16 to 20 years old, their maximum age.

Aid to conservation

By determining the age, growth rates, and interaction of clams in a relatively undisturbed environment, Dr. Radtke hopes to gather information that will aid giant-clam conservation efforts.

There is some urgency to his work, because both local and federal government officials are anxious to know whether the clam population at Rose Atoll is secure enough to be harvested.



Diver off the coast of Australia encounters a giant clam about 3.5 feet long. The excurrent siphon (hole in fleshy part), expels water and waste. (National Geographic photo)

England wins 1st test series abroad in 6 years

KANPUR, India (R) — England triumphed in a test cricket series abroad for the first time for six years when they comfortably thwarted India's desperate attempt to win the fifth and final test against the odds Tuesday.

Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar made a challenging second innings declaration which left his team 90 minutes and 20 mandatory overs in which to dismiss England. The touring team, set a target of 234, held out to draw at 91 without loss and clinched the series 2-1.

England's last test series win abroad was in 1978-79 when Mike Brearley's team won 5-1 in Australia. Since then England have lost their six overseas series until David Gower's side emerged triumphant here.

Gower, whose return to batting form played a significant part in forcing the draw on the fifth and last day, said: "We are delighted to have proved our critics wrong and the lads really deserve the series win. They all worked very hard."

India set up their outside chance of a surprise win when they captured England's last four first innings wickets for 44 Tuesday morning and they were all out for 417 — 136 behind. India declared after lashing 97 for one from 13 overs, but England's batsmen firmly closed the door on their hopes of success.

After England resumed at 373 for six Tuesday morning, Gower and Phil Edmonds kept India's attack at bay for nearly an hour and extended to exactly 100 their stand which Monday averted the follow-on.

Left-arm spinner Edmonds was first to go at 386, leg before for 49 to Kapil Dev, who also snapped up fast bowlers Neil Foster and Norman Cowans to finish with four for 81.

Gower fell lbw to left-arm spinner Ravi Shastri for 78, ending his lean sequence of 57 runs in the first four matches of the series.

England's first innings ended after 80 minutes Tuesday morning, and Gavaskar ordered a chase for quick runs when India

barred again against an attack without Foster. He was taken to hospital for a X-ray of his foot which was struck by a delivery from Kapil Dev.

Mohammad Azharuddin and opener Krishnamachari Srikkanth led the assault after Shastri was run out for two in the first over, and the second wicket pair completed a half century partnership in 37 minutes.

Azharuddin, India's batting discovery of the series who scored a hundred in each of his first three tests, was unbeaten on 54, with Shastri 41 not out, at the declaration.

England did not take up the gauntlet. They were 36 without loss at tea after Gower, promoting himself to open, and Tim Robinson provided a solid base.

Robinson, who wears contact lenses, retired hurt with eye trouble after the interval, and England's captain took his side to safety with Mike Gatting.

Gavaskar accepted the inevitable when he brought on Azharuddin for his first over in test cricket, and play ended with 10 of the mandatory 20 overs still to be bowled.

Telford were never in trouble in front of an 8,000 crowd and won with goals from car worker Dave Mather (34th), Eddie Hogan (44th) and John Alcock (46th).

In another fourth round tie West Ham, cup winners three times in the last 20 years, came from behind with goals from Geoff Pike and Ray Stewart (penalty) to beat Norwich 2-1 and now visit second division Wimbledon.

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Jordan attends youth conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in an Arab universities conference to open in Baghdad Wednesday, in cooperation with the Arab League's sports and youth administration and Iraq.

The Jordanian team to the 5-day conference left Amman Tuesday led by Ministry of Youth's Director of Voluntary Division Jeris Haddad.

The conference will discuss the role of Arab youth and social and economic development and their contribution to peace.

The delegation include Mr. Salem Khazaleh of the University of Jordan and Mr. Yousef Khreis of Muta University.

Netherlands soccer trainer replaced

THE HAGUE (R) — Dutchman Leo Beenhakker has been appointed Netherlands soccer trainer until June 1 as replacement for Rinus Michels, who recently suffered a light heart attack, the Dutch Football Association (KNVB) said.

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FAMINE PLEA: Frenchman Yannick Noah makes a plea to tennis fans at the U.S. National Indoor Championships in Memphis Sunday to donate money to help victims of Africa's famine. Noah made the plea after announcing he would give part of the \$22,500 for winning second place in the tournament to the victims. Noah was beaten in the final by Sweden's Stefan Edberg 6-1, 6-0.

World champion Laciari postpones title defence

GRENOBLE, France (R) — Santos Laciari, Argentina's World Boxing Association (WBA) flyweight champion, has postponed his title defence against Antoine Montero of France because of injury, the promoters said Tuesday. Laciari's bout against former European Champion Montero, originally scheduled for Grenoble on March 4, will now take place on May 6, they said.

The French sports daily l'Equipe Tuesday carried a report from Argentina, quoting Laciari's manager Francisco Giordano as saying the champion had injured his right wrist in training.

Senna to drive new Lotus

LONDON (R) — Fit-again Ayrton Senna is scheduled to test the new Lotus 97T in his native Brazil this weekend.

Senna, 24, snapped up by Lotus after a tremendous first Grand Prix season with Toleman in 1984, has spent the last two months recovering from a virus infection.

He said before leaving his Reading, England, base for Rio de Janeiro that he had been given the all-clear to resume competitive driving.

"I have had two months without any exercise so I am trying hard to compensate for the enforced lay off," he said.

"I am training hard but in the end what I really need is to drive the car, starting with the important Rio tests. Fortunately the season is starting late."

Senna also replied to questions raised by some motor racing experts over his physical fitness following his post-South African

Grand Prix collapse and his end-of-season illness.

"The virus had nothing to do with poor health — anyone could have caught it," he said.

"Yet from my experience during the season I realised that I was trying to drive 100 per cent the whole distance just as I had been used to doing in Formula Three and Formula Four events."

"Now, I don't think that's possible. I don't care how strong or fit the driver, you can't drive flat out for the whole distance."

Senna and his new team-mate, Italian Elio de Angelis, third in last year's World Championship, will have a stronger, more refined and developed version of an already good car, according to Lotus team chief Peter Warr.

The 97T, is smaller and more streamlined than its predecessor and will be powered by the latest development of the Renault Turbo engine.

FIFA satisfied with Mexican World Cup finals preparations

ZURICH (R) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) said Tuesday it was very satisfied with host country Mexico's preparations for the 1986 World Cup finals.

An inspection team, led by FIFA World Cup Organising Committee Chairman Hermann Neubauer of West Germany and FIFA General Secretary Joseph Blatter of Switzerland, has been touring Mexico for more than a week.

A FIFA news release said that as everything was proceeding smoothly there would be no further inspection visits until December, when the World Cup draw will be made.

FIFA added that federation president Joao Havelange of Brazil will attend Tuesday night's friendly between Switzerland and Bulgaria in Queretaro, the only new stadium among the 12 World Cup venues.

Lendl top seed in Florida tennis

DELRAY BEACH, Florida (R) — Three of Sweden's Davis Cup stars were seeded right behind favourite Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia in the draw for the inaugural \$1.8 million International Players' Tennis Championships.

With Americans John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, ranked first and second in the world, not playing in this two-week long event, Mats Wilander, Henrik Sundstrom and Anders Jarryd were seeded second, third and fourth, respectively.

Americans Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert Lloyd, who rank one-two in women's tennis, were seeded the same way in the women's singles.

Play begins on Tuesday with 128 men and 128 women seeking a \$112,500 first prize in the event, which was organised by the Men's Association of Tennis Professionals and the Women's Tennis Association.

Lendl, ranked third in the world ahead of Wilander, will open against Larry Stefanki, an American who ended the 1984 season ranked 116th.

Chelsea makes exit from F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Telford United, who play in a minor league, lined up the biggest pay day in the club's history with a 3-0 win over fourth division Darlington Monday night in a fourth round replay in the English Football Association Cup.

Telford's reward is trip to cup holders and first division leaders Everton in the fifth round on February 16.

But there was a bigger surprise at Chelsea where the first division side were beaten 3-2 in a fourth round tie by fellow Londoners

Millwall, of the third division. Chelsea should have equalised three minutes from time when they were awarded a penalty, but David Speedie shot wide. It was the ninth penalty miss by a Chelsea player in the last 17 attempts.

Millwall led through Steve Lovell, after 17 minutes, but Chelsea hit back with goals by Nigel Spackman (53rd minute) and Paul Canonville (58th).

Millwall were not to be denied and goals by John Fashanu (61st) and Lovell from the penalty spot

ten minutes later earned them a fifth round tie at home to Leicester.

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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ADVERTISEMENT

The newly established WHO Regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) is in need of a Senior Secretary to be employed early March 1985 initially on a temporary basis, subject for renewal on a monthly basis.

Applicants are requested to submit their credentials in person at the centre's office located at Primary Health Care Directorate Building, World Health Organization Office, Commodore Street, Shmeisani between 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday up to 20 February 1985. Those who are eligible to apply must present proof of the following qualifications:

- 1) Fluency in both Arabic and English including typing
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- 3) Graduation from secondary school with further secretarial diploma.
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British citizens already registered with the Consular Section are invited to reconfirm their presence by telephone or by letter. They should notify any change of address or telephone number.

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Tough economic control hardens living in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis Tuesday paid up to 20 per cent more for groceries under a new wage and price restraint agreement aimed at reducing inflation, running at an annual rate of 450 per cent.

Other tough economic measures, designed to stem a serious decline in foreign currency reserves, will force Israelis to dig deeper into their pockets for foreign travel and imports.

The wage and price pact, signed by the government, labour unions and manufacturers Monday night, took effect Tuesday and lasts for eight months.

Israelis paid between four and 20 per cent more for 200 products whose prices had been frozen for three months while postal charges doubled and electricity prices rose 25 per cent.

Edicts adopted an emergency cabinet meeting Monday night doubled the \$100 tax Israelis pay to leave the country and imposed a 15 per cent tax on air tickets and 20 per cent on already costly luxury imports such as cars and cosmetics.

Israel's foreign currency reserves fell last month by 11 per cent to \$2.31 billion. Economists regard \$3 billion as the minimum operating level.

The levies came in for criticism from importers, travel agents, economists and others.

"What do they want to do, close all of us up in one pressure cooker?" asked Mr. Kobi Karney, deputy chairman of the Israeli Travel Agents' Association.

"After years of work and serving in the military reserves a guy wants to take his family for a vacation and it will cost him thousands of dollars more," he said.

"The trips abroad and imports didn't create the problem of empty coffers," economist Dov Gencosky wrote in the daily newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth.

"It was the government's inability to reduce its spending that did it," he said.

Tuesday's new prices, listed in newspapers which themselves cost 20 per cent more, included a kilogramme of meat costing \$3.20, a 200-gramme jar of coffee at \$2.67 and a kilogramme of government-subsidised sugar at 27 cents.

The prices of 20 other groceries including ketchup, soup, alcoholic beverages, clothing, shoes and electrical appliances were not raised.

Government officials hope the measures will reduce inflation, running at 450 per cent a year, and discourage Israelis from taking dollars out of the country.

Workers' wages were expected to be eroded by about three per cent under the pact, which allows for only partial compensation for the price rises.

The Israeli government hoped the measures would convince the United States that it is taking painful action to revive the economy.

Israel, heavily dependent on U.S. aid, has asked Washington for \$1.85 billion in U.S. economic aid to help it solve its financial problems.

U.S. officials said they had planned to allot \$1 billion in economic aid to Israel but held that up to consider Israel's request for more and to wait for further actions by that country to bring its economy under control.

Reagan report paints rosy picture of U.S. economy

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States can enjoy lasting economic health and at the same time reduce its budget deficit by making government smaller, President Reagan told Congress Tuesday.

He said in his annual economic report: "Economic conditions in 1984 were more favourable than during the second year of a typical recovery, and we see none of the warning signs that usually precede the end of an expansion."

Restating his philosophy that less government is better government, he said: "We should continue to reduce the many less important economic activities of the federal government so that individuals, private institutions, and state and local governments will have more resources and more freedom to pursue their own interests."

An accompanying report prepared by the White House Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) showed similar optimism to the president's. It said: "Americans have every reason to look forward to continuing economic expansion."

It said there was a need to reduce the budget deficit and to intensify international efforts to liberalise world trade.

The CEA said the U.S. economy would expand at a rate of four per cent after inflation this year, slightly higher than is typical in the third year of economic expansion.

It forecast that price rises would continue to be moderate and unemployment would fall about half a percentage point from its present level of 7.4 per cent.

Both reports were submitted a day after Mr. Reagan formally asked Congress to approve a \$973.7 billion budget for the 1986 financial year beginning on Oct. 1.

If all his spending proposals were put into effect, the federal deficit would fall to about \$180 billion in 1986 from an estimated \$222.2 billion this year.

The budget has already met opposition in Congress, some of whose members say it provides too much for defence while seeking to reduce domestic programmes.

The CEA report included recommendations for the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. equivalent of a central bank, on how to handle monetary policy.

Administration officials have asked the Federal Reserve to keep the money supply growing enough to foster economic expansion.

In his message to Congress, Mr. Reagan said: "We need to strengthen the commitment to a sound monetary policy that never again retards economic growth."

The CEA report made a strong plea for more open international trade as a prerequisite to world economic vitality.

It said the world was moving away from free trade and the United States was not without blame in this.

The report said the United States should strengthen its commitment to the free trade principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and should campaign for a broadening of the scope of GATT to include trade in services among other things.

It said open trade would not necessarily reduce the U.S. trade deficit, which was a record \$123 billion last year, or correct the broader imbalance in U.S. foreign trade.

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's oil export revenue in the fiscal year ending March 22 could be nearly a quarter below target, a leading parliamentarian has forecast.

The figure could total 1,400 billion rials (\$15 billion) compared with a target of 1,800 billion (\$19.3 billion). Hojatoleslam Gholam Hossein Naadi, a Majlis plan and budget committee member, said in a newspaper interview.

Diplomats here have said for some time that oil export income could fall short because of Iraqi attacks on tankers using Iran's main oil terminal on Kharg Island in the Gulf. The two countries have been at war since September 1980.

Western oil industry sources say Iranian oil exports last month were about 700,000 barrels a day (b/d), compared with 1.7 million before the so-called tanker war began early last year.

Iran, an Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) member, has an output quota of 2.3 million b/d under OPEC rules.

Hojatoleslam Naadi also told the Tehran newspaper Ettela'at that tax revenue for the year could be 700 billion rials (\$7.5 billion) against a target of \$73 billion (\$9.3 billion). But he said a quarter of the 1,186 rials (\$12.75 billion) earmarked for development was unlikely to be spent.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed firm after a moderately active session and at 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 20.5 to 1288.7.

Dealers said the January U.K. money supply, which suggests that Sterling M3 rose by about 1/4 per cent, was within market expectations. Government bonds which had risen as much as 1/2 point amid overseas demand met profit taking afterwards and closed with net rises ranging to 1/4 point.

ICI paced the advance among equity leaders gaining 25p at 864 while oils improved helped by firm spot crude prices. North American firms and gold shares were occasionally mixed.

Dealers noted U.S. demand for selected stocks which included oils. B.P. was 19p up at 555 and Shell added 24p to 770.

Fisons rose 18p to 298, BTR firmed 13p to 651, Glaxo put on 20p to 1180 while Thorn EMI gained 15p to 442. In tobacco BAT at 378 and Imperial Group at 206 were 10p apiece higher.

Banks and insurances showed gains ranging to about 8p. Harrisons and Crosfield fell 20p to 428 after Pauls rejected its bid terms. The latter rose 30p to 375. Total added 15p to 79 after the 70p bid from Entrac Corp.

Rowntree at 363 and Pilkington at 303 were 15p apiece higher while Exco added 10p to 668.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.1120/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3337/40	Canadian dollars
	3.2160/70	West German marks
	3.6395/6405	Dutch guilders
	2.7375/90	Swiss francs
	64.34/37	Belgian francs
	9.8175/8225	French francs
	1975/1977	Italian lire
	259.50/60	Japanese yen
	9.1570/1620	Swedish crowns
	9.2750/2800	Norwegian crowns
	11.4800/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	301.75/302.25	U.S. dollars

Lebanese pound recovers

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese pound halted its record-breaking collapse Tuesday recovering from a two-week plunge to close at 13.70 to the dollar from Monday's 15.10.

Dealers attributed the revival, amid light trading, to expectations of official action to stabilise the currency decided at a series of top-level meetings Monday night.

Some dealers expressed optimism about promised government and central bank action and a request by President Amin Gemayel to Saudi Arabia for financial aid, which press reports put at \$500 million.

The pound opened at 13.50/14.50, after closing Monday night at 15.00/15.20, and strengthened to 12.75/13.50 before dropping rapidly to 14.25/14.75 at mid-morning, dealers said.

One dealer attributed the one-day recovery to lack of confidence in the government's approach.

But he added that dealers then "saw the need to lower the market because the government and central bank had to do something or the pound would have sunk to 25 to the dollar in a couple of hours."

The currency then began recovering to close at 13.60/13.80.

Stating that confidence was not fully restored, the dealer said: "It is very important that the central bank start intervening, even in small amounts. At present people think it can't intervene at all."

Another dealer attributed the day's recovery to "a certain optimism. People were not in a panic today. We are awaiting new circulars from the central bank."

Cyprus trade deficit widens

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus' trade deficit grew by 20 per cent in the first 11 months of last year despite a rise of over 30 per cent in exports, official figures show.

The deficit reached 412.9 million Cyprus pounds (\$675 million), by 71.1 million pounds (\$114 million) more than in the same period of 1983, the figures showed.

Exports, mainly agricultural, textiles and manufactured items, rose 31.8 per cent to 309.5 million pounds while imports, mostly consumer goods and oil products, grew by 24.9 per cent to 731.4 million pounds (\$1.17 billion).

The import total for the 11 months was swelled by a 59.8 million pound (\$96 million) payment for two new A-310 Airbus passenger jets bought by Cyprus Airways.

Imports in November alone fell 19.2 per cent compared with a year earlier to 55.7 million pounds (\$89 million) while exports rose 22.2 per cent to 28.3 million pounds (\$45 million).

British reserves fall sharply

LONDON (R) — Britain's official reserves fell sharply last month, indicating that the government drew heavily on them to prop up the tumbling pound sterling, foreign exchange dealers said Monday.

Currency and gold reserves fell \$282 million in January when new borrowing and repayments had been excluded, their biggest fall in almost two years, official figures showed.

This coincided with a crisis which saw the pound fall two per cent against the other major currencies, and dealers said it showed the government had been forced into a more aggressive policy of market intervention.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has normally been reluctant to use reserves to buy pounds, insisting it was up to the markets to determine sterling's level.

Her ability to intervene is also limited since, at \$15.5 billion, Britain's total reserves are small by the standards of the leading industrial countries.

G.M. earnings total \$4.5b

DETROIT (R) — General Motors (G.M.) Monday said it earned \$4.5 billion in 1984, the highest profits ever reported by a U.S. auto manufacturer.

With sales and revenues of almost \$84 billion, the world's largest car company last year surpassed the record \$3.7 billion it earned in 1983 when revenues totalled \$75 billion.

Fourth quarter earnings, however, suffered a significant drop, which analysts attributed largely to United Auto Workers strikes against G.M. plants in the United States and Canada during September and October and an overall economic slowdown.

The company said profits in the final three months of 1984 declined to \$877 million from the fourth quarter record of \$1.3 billion set in 1983.

G.M.'s record profits were attributed to higher vehicle sales, improved operating efficiencies and a \$422 million one-time tax credit due to changes in U.S. law during 1984.

EC reimposes stiff duty on Saudi petrochemicals

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission has reimposed a stiff duty on imports of Saudi petrochemicals on the eve of new talks between the Community and the Gulf Cooperation Council in Bahrain later this month, officials said Tuesday.

The duty on methanol imports, fiercely criticised by Riyadh, was reimposed after shipments reached 16 times their annual tariff-free quota level in just three weeks, they said.

The officials said duties were likely to be reimposed on other petrochemicals such as ethylene glycol and styrene in the near future. Commission sources also predicted moves to impose a tariff on polyethylene for the first time.

Saudi Arabia, which along with other Gulf states has built plants as joint ventures mostly with U.S. and Japanese firms, has long been unhappy about a Community policy of allowing only limited quantities of petrochemicals into the bloc duty free.

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's industry and electrical power minister, Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zamel, told a U.S. trade delegation Tuesday he hoped the international market would not place obstacles in the way of the kingdom's exports.

The Community imposed the 13.4 per cent tariff after a single shipment of methanol look Saudi exports to 16 times the annual 1,600 tonnes-a-year limit. They said around 40,000 tonnes of Saudi methanol entered the Community during the first nine months of last year alone.

Commission officials stress the duty is a routine one. They said if any concessions were given to Gulf states, the bloc would be obliged under GATT rules to give them to everyone.

The officials said the question would be on the agenda for talks in Bahrain on Feb. 28 aimed at drawing up an overall trading agreement between the European bloc and the Saudi-led Gulf Cooperation Council.

Saudi Arabia has brought several large petrochemical plants on stream in the past year and has said it is aiming at an eventual five per cent share of the world market. More plants are to begin production in other Gulf states.

Japan to lend Pakistan \$124m

TOKYO (R) — Japan Tuesday promised Pakistan project and commodity loans worth 32,277 million yen (124 million), the foreign ministry announced.

The loans for the financial year ending on March 31 include 23,777 million yen (\$91.45 million) to help build a thermal power plant in Jamshoro, 150 kilometres northeast of Karachi, and to help improve Pakistan's railways, it said.

It was Japan's second yen loan for the power plant. The first was worth 21,736 million yen (\$83.6 million), the ministry said.

An 8,500 million yen (\$32.69 million) commodity loan was designed to help improve Pakistan's international balance of payments, the ministry said.

Iranian oil income may drop by quarter

TEHRAN (R) — Iran's oil export revenue in the fiscal year ending March 22 could be nearly a quarter below target, a leading parliamentarian has forecast.

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until midday, you will have a big chance to make some very interesting changes and to extend your interests where it will count. Try not to force issues. Use tact.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Early go after what you most desire and later be cautious in going after any further aims. Show your intelligence.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make a fine impression on a bigwig and then sit back and watch the good results. Arrive on time for important appointments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you go after your personal wishes in a sure manner, they can soon be yours. Take care later not to get discouraged.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Show a higher-up that you are most capable, but don't be forceful in trying to gain your way.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have fine ideas for extending interests but making changes now could prove detrimental. Stick to mature judgment.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Early handle practical dealings with others and get good results. The afternoon is fraught with tensions, so don't plan very much.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Ideal morning for putting your financial and practical affairs in order. Tonight, do not argue with your mate. Just relax and rest.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Find a better way of pleasing an associate, but later don't have doubts about an agreement made. Study every angle of outside interests. Be happy tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Everything should go smoothly at work in the morning. Later, problems arise that require patience.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan how to have greater happiness in the days ahead and then perfect some special talent you have.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A different attitude is necessary when dealing with a family tie. You are able to handle tense matters that arise.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get in touch with friends and discuss your mutual aims. Come to a fine understanding with them. Use care driving.

THE Daily Crossword by William Lutwinak

ACROSS

- Energy source
- abbr.
- into my feet
- Whereas
- Portnoy's creator
- Sub's eyes
- Amour
- Heretical
- Big hits
- Comedians
- Swiss past
- Clio or Clio
- Reluctant
- Dodge
- Biography by Fowles
- Certain sleds
- Wish undone
- In a while
- Jiffy
- Loose feathers
- Valise
- Gleamed
- Meat dish
- Abode
- Ravel opus
- Breathing organ
- the line
- Leaves the ship
- Glare
- Unravelling
- Perforated
- Chop line
- Saharans
- Bribable
- Biblical name
- Unoccupied
- Relative of
- Taking a
- put (alone)
- Treasure
- Swiss maths
- males
- Rock prefix
- Antler
- Calls to mind
- Relative of bingo
- Certain
- comedian
- jogg
- Decide before the facts are in
- Summit
- Sp. kid
- 50 Foot for page
- 51 Different
- 45 Couple

DOWN

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SPIN A LAR, RILEY, RIDE, LORNE, REAP, ELITE, MEXICAN, HALLS, DOYLE, LINK, OTTERS, ELIA, OAG, ARIAN, CLANG, ALAN, ANNA, LUTWINAK, TITNIS, ANO, DOE, TABS, PISTON, DEN, SIBREE, BELGIAN, SHEPHERD, ALLEN, ANON, OMAN, NERVE, VARE, ENIS, GREER, EGAD, ENE

THE BETTER HALF By Harris

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"The dentist called. Your new filling is guaranteed for 12 months or 12,000 meals, whichever comes first."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NUNAL

OAPIN

COOTLE

RANOUR

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FRUIT BRAIN AVENUE DISMAL

Answer: While she was getting a facelift of mud she was also getting this AN EARFUL OF DIRT

Peanuts

TWENTY-SEVEN...

THE AVERAGE PERSON MOVES IN HIS OR HER SLEEP THIRTY TIMES A NIGHT...

TWENTY-EIGHT...

TWO MORE TO GO...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

JEFF: WONDER YOU'RE BROKE! LOOK AT THIS CHECK STUB OF YOURS! ONE PULL-OVER! SO? ISN'T THAT EXPENSIVE FOR A PULLOVER?

MUTT: YES, I THOUGHT SO!

JEFF: BUT THE MAN ON THE MOTORCYCLE SAID IT WAS THE REGULAR PRICE!

MUTT: YOU GOT THIS PULLOVER FROM A MAN ON A MOTORCYCLE?

JEFF: YEH! I WENT THROUGH A RED LIGHT AND HE SAID, PULLOVER!

Andy Capp

START THE DAY WITH A SMILE - AND GET IT OVER WITH

ANZUS faces crisis after cancellation of manoeuvres

WASHINGTON (R) — The 32-year-old ANZUS Pacific defence alliance was in its worst crisis Tuesday after the United States confirmed cancellation of a naval exercise over New Zealand's refusal to grant port facilities to nuclear-capable American warships.

A U.S. official, asking not to be named, said that the "Sea Eagle" manoeuvres, due to be held by U.S., Australian and New Zealand naval forces next month, had been cancelled because of New Zealand's stance.

In Canberra, Australian Defence Minister Kim Beazley said Australia would immediately begin talks with the U.S. and New Zealand, its partners in the ANZUS Pacific security treaty, on how their defence interests could be separately pursued.

The future of the three-nation pact will be pondered by President Reagan and Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke when he visits Washington this week.

Canberra officials refused to speculate, however, on whether

Mr. Hawke and senior U.S. officials would study the possibility of a defence pact restructured without New Zealand.

The crisis arose over the refusal by New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange, whose Labour government was elected last July on a strongly anti-nuclear platform, to allow a requested visit by the destroyer USS Buchanan following the exercises.

The ban covers nuclear-powered vessels as well as warships equipped with nuclear weapons. United States policy is never to state which vessels carry nuclear arms.

The United States says, such ship visits are essential to the continued effectiveness of the ANZUS alliance, and the treaty

would cease to be effective if New Zealand stood by its policy.

The State Department Monday confirmed that the United States was reviewing its overall military cooperation with New Zealand under the alliance, concluded in San Francisco in 1951, and further measures could be announced.

The cancellation apparently had the support of Australia, whose Prime Minister Bob Hawke had earlier said it was imminent.

The ANZUS treaty — the name derives from the initials of its three member nations — provides mutual support against "an armed attack on the Pacific area."

In Moscow, the Soviet TASS News Agency said Tuesday that the Reagan administration had unleashed "a vicious anti-New Zealand campaign" because of Wellington's stance.

In Wellington, Mr. Lange said New Zealand had no intention of pulling out of the treaty but would not relent on its refusal to allow the visit of the Buchanan.

Taiwan to indict 2 in writer's murder

TAIPEI (R) — Indictments on charges of murder and possession of arms will be brought against two local gang leaders in connection with the killing of a Chinese-American writer in California last year, Taiwan court officials said Tuesday.

The officials said the indictments would be brought soon against Chen Chi-Li and Wu Tun, alleged by U.S. authorities to have killed writer Henry Liu.

A Taiwanese statement said

Monday an official commission had completed a preliminary probe into the murder of Mr. Liu, 52, a strong critic of the Taiwan government who was shot in Daly City near San Francisco on Oct. 15.

It said three top intelligence officials, including the chief of the Military Intelligence Bureau, Vice-Admiral Wang Hsi-Ling, had been turned over to military prosecutors for further investigation.

8 die in Alaska plane crash

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A commuter aircraft with nine people on board crashed and burst into flames while trying to land in bad weather, leaving eight people dead and one missing, authorities said.

The twin-engine Beechcraft Queen Air went down at 8:20 p.m. (0520 GMT) Monday about 1.5 kilometres east of Soldatna International Airport, according to Paul Steucke, Federal Aviation Administration public affairs officer for Alaska.

The plane carried seven passengers and two crew members, according to James Michelangelo, Alaska director of the National Transportation Safety Board. The bodies of eight people were found and another was missing and presumed to be inside the wreckage, he said.

"One they can't find," Mr. Michelangelo said. "They think he's under the aircraft."

Alaska State Troopers said a search party on foot reached the crash site, about 10 kilometres south west of Anchorage on the Kenai peninsula, late Monday night.

The Pentagon declined comment on the report, saying it involved intelligence matters.

In Monday's report, Aviation Week also said the Soviet Union successfully launched another spy satellite on Jan. 24 — the same day that a U.S. military space shuttle mission went into orbit.

The report said the failed Cosmos 1,625 was designed to help keep track of U.S. ships by picking up their radio signals.

Soviet satellite burns up in space, report says

WASHINGTON (R) — A Soviet satellite designed to spy on U.S. Navy ship movements failed to reach its proper orbit in a January launch and burned up in the atmosphere two days later, according to a report.

The intelligence satellite, designated Cosmos 1,625, was launched from the Tyuratam launch site on Jan. 23, according to the authoritative magazine Aviation Week And Space Technology.

But the report said the booster rocket failed to place the Cosmos into its designated 280-mile-high orbit and it slowly slipped back into the atmosphere, burning up over Romania on Jan. 25.

The magazine reported that U.S. Air Force tracking equi-

ment detected the satellite crashing 320 kilometres north west of Bucharest near the town of Cluj.

"It is possible that some of the debris from the spacecraft did not burn up in the atmosphere and fell in this area of Eastern Europe," Aviation Week said.

The Pentagon declined comment on the report, saying it involved intelligence matters.

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Nicaraguan priest refuses to quit government post

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's Culture Minister has refused to quit his job and described as unjust a Vatican order stripping him of his priestly duties while he stayed in public office.

Ernesto Cardenal was the second of four Roman Catholic priests in the government warned by Rome to quit their posts or face suspension. Vatican rules bar priests from secular office.

Referring to the order, Cardenal told a news conference Monday: "They are asking me to abandon my people and I cannot abandon my people... My brother Fernando and I are victims of an

injustice."

Fernando Cardenal, Ernesto's brother, was expelled from the Jesuits in December, and Edgar Parrales, ambassador to the Organisation of American States, says he wants to give up the priesthood.

Miguel d'Escoto was given 15 days on Jan. 27 to reconsider his refusal to step down as foreign minister. Cardenal was given the same period 10 days earlier.

Cardenal added that although he had to accept the Vatican order to stop carrying out religious functions he would remain a priest and observe celibacy.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

SQUEEZE THE LAST OUNCE

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

102

KQ98

14

K8754

WEST

J7643

9

63

Q10985

Q1098

J32

SOUTH

AKQ85

A73

AK72

A

The bidding:

South West North East

2+ Pass 3+ Pass

3+ Pass 3+ Pass

6NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: 10 of ♠.

We seldom use squeeze plays in this column, because too many of them are automatic. In today's hand, however, South had to overcome a bad break in his key suit to land his slam.

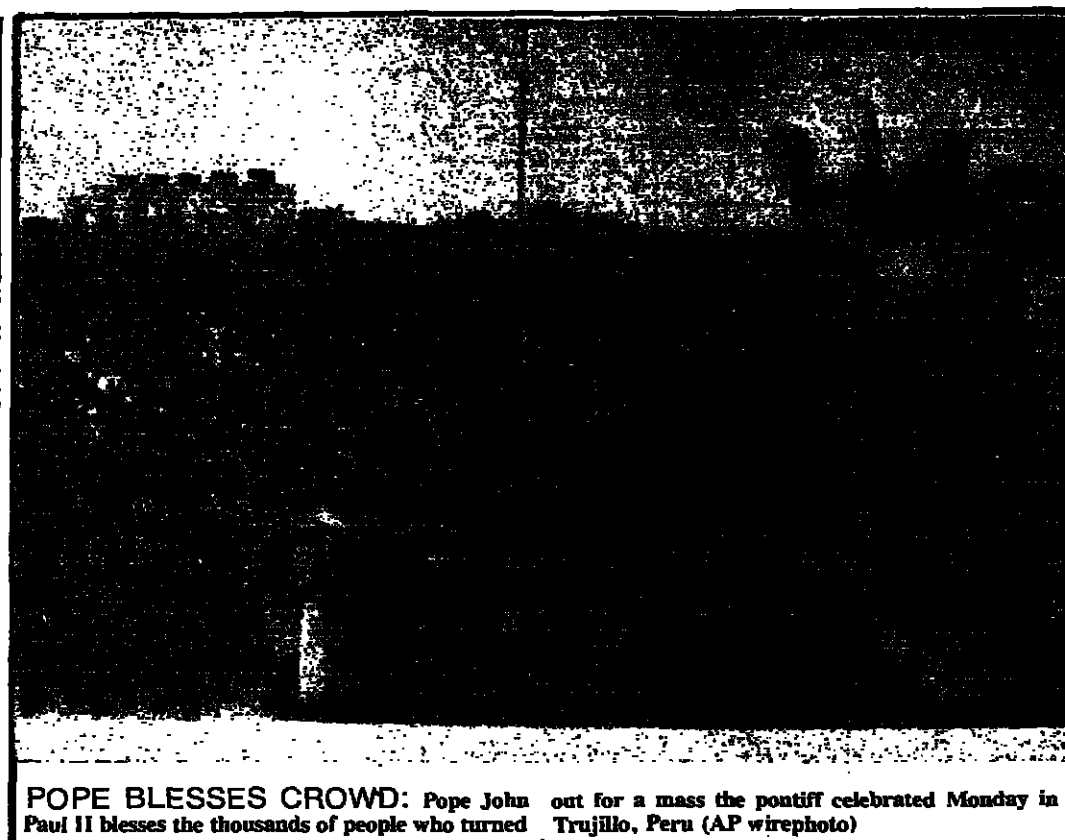
North had just enough for a positive response after his partner opened with a demand bid in spades. When the auction revealed the hand was a partial misfit, South decided a small slam in no trump was high enough.

West led the 10 of clubs, and

declarer performed won the ace. He cashed the ace of spades and noted with interest that East dropped the nine. Now declarer could bring in five spade tricks if East started with the J-9 doubleton, but declarer realised that, if he cashed the king and East showed out, he would be limited to only three spade tricks. To check on East's holding, declarer crossed to dummy with the queen of hearts and led the 10 of spades. When East pitched a diamond, declarer ran the 10 to West's jack.

Back came another club, won on the board as declarer discarded a diamond. If hearts were 3-3, the contract was guaranteed. If the suit did not break, declarer would need to find one of the defenders with length in both red suits.

Declarer crossed to the ace of hearts and ran all his spades, sluffing two clubs and a diamond from dummy. East could afford to part with a club and another diamond on the third and fourth leads of the suit, but the last spade forced him to make a Hobson's choice. If he sluffed a heart, dummy's fourth heart would set up for the 12th trick; if he parted with a diamond, declarer's seven of diamonds would be the fulfilling trick. No matter what, the small slam was safe.



POPE BLESSES CROWD: Pope John Paul II blesses the thousands of people who turned out for a mass the pontiff celebrated Monday in Trujillo, Peru (AP wirephoto)

Vietnamese besiege Khmer Rouge HQ

KHLONG HAT, Thailand (R) — Vietnamese troops backed by tanks and artillery overran a mountain Khmer Rouge command headquarters (HQ) after several days of fighting but suffered heavy losses, a senior Thai military officer said.

Maj.-Gen. Salya Sripen told reporters the guerrillas had abandoned their positions at Ang Kobal Mountain in the face of sustained attacks.

It was the third guerrilla outpost to fall since Vietnamese troops began their drive late last month against the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Phnom Malai in a rugged area on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Thai officers quoted Khmer Rouge guerrillas as saying about 200 Vietnamese soldiers were killed or wounded in the vicinity of Ang Kobal and four Soviet-made

tanks destroyed. They said Ang Kobal, on the Kampuchean side of the border about 12 kilometres south east of this Thai village, was the headquarters of the Khmer Rouge 320th Division.

The Thais said the command structure of the division was still intact and had moved to another location.

Phnom Malai which covers an area of about 400 square kilometres has been a guerrilla sanctuary since the Khmer Rouge were deposed as Kampuchea's government by Vietnamese troops in 1979. Previous attempts by Vietnamese troops to control it have been unsuccessful.

Gen. Salya said this time about 18,000 Vietnamese troops were involved in the operation and they were advancing south of Aranyaprathet along the border and

west from Route Five.

This is the biggest force ever assembled by Vietnam in the area and its most ambitious campaign to crush the Khmer Rouge, the dominant force in the U.N.-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK).

Western military analysts estimate about 10,000 armed guerrillas from the Khmer Rouge's 450th and 320th Divisions are in the Phnom Malai area. In addition about 40,000 civilians live in the district.

Gen. Salya said it appeared the Vietnamese had enough forces to seal the border area or cripple the Khmer Rouge but added it was still too early to predict the outcome.

He expected fighting in the area would continue until the start of the rainy season in April.

1 killed, 2 injured in Indian rebel raid

NEW DELHI (R) — One man was shot dead and two were seriously wounded Tuesday in a raid on a ruling Communist Party politician's house by a separatist group in north eastern India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Two people were also kidnapped and tortured in the raid, at Mandai Bazar in Tripura state, the news agency said.

The attackers raided the house of a member of the state assembly

early Tuesday and fired five rounds at the building, killing one man and wounding two, PTI said.

The politician, a member of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), which rules Tripura was not at home.

The attackers later carried off two student CPI-M supporters, tortured them and left them in a school playground, PTI added.

The agency said the attackers were members of the outlawed

Tripura National Volunteers (TNV).

Indian security forces have been waging a counter-insurgency campaign against secessionists in north eastern border states such as Tripura for more than 20 years.

Filipino government says Soviet official missing

MANILA (R) — The Philippine government said Tuesday it had been informed a Soviet citizen was missing since Jan. 21 and said it had received "unconfirmed reports" that he had left the country.

Government sources told Reuters Monday they believed Vladimir Ivanov, a Soviet official, had defected after making contact with the U.S. embassy. The embassy denied it had had been in touch with any Russian seeking political asylum.

Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino said in a statement that efforts were being made to locate Mr. Ivanov, 46, following a report from the Soviet embassy that he had disappeared.

"The Philippine government, has assured the Soviets, all efforts will be exerted to find Mr. Ivanov if he is still in the country," Mr. Tolentino said.

Ivanov arrived on Jan. 19 as part of a six-man Soviet delegation to an exhibition of chemical products in Manila.

The Foreign Ministry said his

Kohl, Fabius begin talks

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl began talks in Bonn Tuesday with visiting French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius amid calls by both governments for increased cooperation to combat a wave of urban guerrilla violence.

A chancellery spokesman said the talks would also cover preparations for a Franco-German summit later this month, the relaxation of border controls and West Germany's controversial plans for a rapid switch to "environment-friendly" cars.

But, in a surprise announcement, West German government spokesman Peter Boenisch said Monday French Interior Minister Pierre Joxe will join Mr. Fabius in Bonn. The two are to discuss closer cooperation in the fight against urban guerrillas with Mr. Kohl and his Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann.

"Since the guerrillas operate internationally, we have to cooperate more and more," Mr. Fabius told West German television at the start of his two-day visit.

The talks follow the murders of a French Defence Ministry official and a Munich arms executive, for which French and German urban guerrilla groups have claimed responsibility.

The hunt for the killers of Ernst Zimmermann, chief executive of the Munich-based military Engine Manufacturer MTU, has so far been unsuccessful. Mr. Zimmermann was shot dead by guerrillas of the West German Red Army Faction (RAF) on Friday.

The Federal Criminal Investigation Office (BKA) said two letters signed by the RAF were found Monday, confirming their goal of creating a united West European movement.

One of the two letters, found at a bus stop in Stuttgart following a telephone call to a local newspaper, claimed responsibility for the murder of Mr. Zimmermann and ended with the slogan: "The West European guerrilla movement rocks the imperialist system."

The phrase was also used by the French guerrilla group Action Directe when it claimed responsibility for the murder of Rene Audran.

More Japanese women smoke

TOKYO (R) — Fewer Japanese men are smoking these days but the number of women smokers is rising, the Japan Tobacco and Salt Monopoly Corporation said Tuesday. Two-thirds of Japanese men admit to being smokers, a corporation survey shows, and 14 per cent of women. It estimated the number of Japanese smokers at 33,000,000.

Rats eat 600,000 tonnes of rice a year

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan's 60 million rats eat 600,000 tonnes of rice a year and an extermination campaign to mark the end of the Year of the Rat will begin this week, a government official said Tuesday. He told reporters it was hoped the campaign would be well under way before the Year of the Ox starts on Feb. 20. Many Taiwanese were reluctant to kill rodents in the Year of the Rat because they believed the result would be bad luck, he said.

Pentagon probes \$600 toilet covers

WASHINGTON (R) — The Pentagon, often criticised for waste, has found itself under attack for spending \$600 each for 54 toilet covers. Pentagon officials, embarrassed in the past for spending \$7,600 for a coffeemaker able to survive air crashes and \$435 for a sledgehammer, said they had launched an investigation. A spokesman added that once the price of the plastic covers for toilets aboard P-3 patrol planes was discovered, the Pentagon ordered an immediate halt and directed that all new purchases be subject to competitive bidding. The spokesman added that the Lockheed Corporation, which sold the Pentagon 54 of the commode covers at a total cost of \$32,400, had also offered a \$4,600 rebate.

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